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Major points settled, India–US trade deal to be signed soon: Goyal

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Starmer faces fresh pressure over Mandelson files

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Ausgram MLA Kalita Majhi after taking oath as minister in the West Bengal government on Monday. PTI

House help to minister: Kalita's rise in Bengal politics

KOLKATA, PTI: A 37-year-old woman who once worked as a domestic help took oath as a minister in the West Bengal government on Monday, marking a remarkable rise in public life that BJP leaders described as an example of the party's emphasis on promoting grassroots workers.

Kalita Majhi, who represents the Ausgram Assembly constituency in Purba Bardhaman district, emerged as one of the surprise winners in the recent Assembly elections, defeating her nearest Trinamool Congress rival by 12,535 votes.

For Majhi, the ministerial berth is the latest milestone in a journey that began in Majhpukur Para in Guskara, where she balanced household work with political activities for years.

"I never imagined that my life would change in this manner. I am grateful to my party for having faith in me and giving me opportunities at every stage," Kalita said shortly after taking oath at the Lok Bhavan here.

A resident of Guskara municipality, Majhi lives with her husband, a plumber, and their son.

Before entering electoral politics, she worked in households in the area to support her family.

BJP legislators Swapan Dasgupta, Tapas Roy and Shankar Ghosh were among the 35 legislators who took oath as ministers on Monday, as West Bengal CM Suvendu Adhikari expanded his cabinet, taking the total strength of the council of ministers to 41.

India gets security assurance from Myanmar President

Modi offers support to Hlaing for peace, stability

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing at Hyderabad House in New Delhi. PTI

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
NEW DELHI, DHNS

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted President U Min Aung Hlaing of Myanmar, Nay Pyi Taw assured New Delhi that the territory of the Southeast Asian country would not be used against the security interests of India, even as the two sides agreed to raise bilateral trade, including through a Rupee-Kyat payment settlement mechanism.

Modi hosted Hlaing, who is the former chief of the Myanmar Army, even as the National Unity Government (NUG) – a parallel administration led by the neighbouring country's lawmakers deposed by the military junta – expressed concern over New Delhi's decision to allow the leader of the 2021 coup d'état to visit India.

Hlaing, who was the commander-in-chief of the Defence Services of Myanmar for 15 years, took over as the president of the country on April 10 after an election, which, according to NUG, was staged only to consolidate his power.

Modi, however, conveyed to Hlaing the support of India for "Myanmar-led efforts towards achieving peace, stability, national reconciliation and socio-economic development".

He also offered continued assistance and cooperation, based on mutual respect and friendly relations between the two countries.

Hlaing appreciated India's constructive support and cooperation, according to a joint statement by the two countries.

The prime minister also raised the issue of the protracted detention of National League of Democracy chief Aung San Suu Kyi, the icon of the struggle against military rule in Myanmar, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri told journalists later.

Modi reaffirmed India's support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Myanmar. Both sides underscored the importance of preventing the misuse of sovereign territory for activities inimical to their security interests.

Hlaing reiterated Myanmar's assurance that its territory would not be permitted to be used against India's security interests. The prime minister affirmed that India, as a steadfast and trusted partner of Myanmar, remained committed to deepening security cooperation between the two countries.

Modi also underlined that enhanced connectivity between India and Myanmar would foster mutually beneficial economic linkages and shared prosperity in the region. Both sides shared the importance of working closely towards the completion of the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport project and the India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral highway.

Cong plans state coordination panels to balance power

SHEMIN JOY & AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

NEW TEMPLATE

- Party eyes committees in Karnataka, Telangana, Kerala, Himachal
- To prevent concentration of administrative control in one person
- Inner-party mechanism to ensure party leadership and govt are on same page
- High command moves to rein in regional satraps

The Congress is considering setting up coordination committees in states where the party is in power to prevent the concentration of administrative control in one person and ensure proper consultation within the party on policy formation and governance.

Though the template is that of the UPA Coordination Committee, this will function as an inner-party mechanism to keep governance on track and ensure that the party leadership and the government are on the same page. The Congress is in power in Karnataka, Telangana, Kerala and Himachal Pradesh.

The chief minister, senior leaders and a Congress in-charge are likely to be part of the new mechanism, which has the endorsement of Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, who feels that a broad-based mechanism is needed instead of a one-leader-centric governance.

The idea for the coordination committee has been floated as the high command's authority was challenged by regional satraps, who refused to honour the power-sharing understanding earlier in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh.

In Kerala, where the Congress heads the coalition government, there is a consultation mechanism with allies through the United Democratic Front (UDF), which has a senior Congress leader as convenor. The proposed mechanism, however, will be party-centric.

The proposal comes as supporters of Siddaramaiah in Karnataka push for an advisory council headed by the outgoing chief minister, on the lines of the Sonia Gandhi-led National Advisory Council (NAC) during the UPA era.

Such a panel, they claim, will help build consensus on contentious issues.

Factional fights have troubled Congress governments, with ambitious leaders challenging the chief minister and impacting governance. In Himachal Pradesh, Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu has faced pressure from detractors, while Revanth Reddy has encountered similar resistance in Telangana.

In Karnataka, Siddaramaiah and incoming chief minister DK Shivakumar were at loggerheads over the transfer of power.

In Kerala, VD Satheesan assumed charge last month after a prolonged struggle for the leadership.

El Nino concerns: Govt steps up measures to protect kharif crops

IMD predicts below-normal monsoon rainfall

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

A busy day in a field as paddy transplantation begins across the region, near Amritsar, on Monday. PTI

With the India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicting a below-normal southwest monsoon at about 90% of the long-period average due to El Nino, the Centre on Monday said it has activated multiple preparedness measures to protect kharif crops.

The Agriculture Ministry has constituted a Crop Weather Watch Group that will meet every Monday to monitor rainfall patterns, sowing progress, reservoir levels, input availability, pest incidence, and price trends.

A separate Crisis Management Group, comprising relief commissioners and state disaster management authorities, has also been set up. A comprehensive crisis management plan has been circulated to all state governments. States have been advised to maintain a seed reserve of at least one per cent, with special emphasis on short and medium-duration varieties.

The ministry is also preparing district-level contingency plans in coordination with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and conducting regular video conferences with state officials.

"A crop weather watch group has been constituted and meets every Monday to study rainfall patterns, sowing progress, reservoir status, input availability, pest incidence and price trends," said Anupam Mishra, Additional Secretary, Food and Consumer Affairs Ministry.

Fertiliser availability

Fertiliser stocks are currently at 51% of the Kharif season requirement — significantly higher than the usual 33% buffer — thanks to advance procurement and better logistics.

Taking the El Nino outlook into account, the ministry has revised fertiliser demand estimates downward.

Domestic fertiliser production stood at 104.81 lakh tonnes post the West Asia crisis, with imports of 27.62 lakh tonnes, taking total additions to availability to approximately 132.43 lakh tonnes, said Aparna S Sharma, Additional Secretary, Fertiliser Ministry.

Urea demand for the 2026-27 kharif season has been pegged at 194 lakh tonnes.

Maha govt faces Oppn pincers as flagship scheme hits hurdle

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

The BJP-led Maha Yuti alliance in Maharashtra is facing criticism after its flagship welfare programme, the Mukhya Mantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana, hit a hurdle.

More than 80 lakh beneficiaries were found ineligible following a verification exercise. Sources said the number of beneficiaries has fallen from nearly 2.4 crore to around 1.7 crore after completing the e-KYC verification process and eligibility review.

According to the government, 50-55 lakh women failed to complete the verification process, while around 12 lakh beneficiaries were found to be income-tax payers exceeding the annual income threshold of Rs 2.5 lakh. Another 4.5 lakh women had crossed the upper age limit, and about 5 lakh were beneficiaries under other schemes.

The Opposition have alleged that the large-scale reduction reflects administrative failures and possible financial stress within the state government.

NCP (SP) working president Supriya Sule demanded an explanation from the government, besides a high-level inquiry and an independent audit.

Opposition eyes June 8 meet to discuss post-poll churn

NEW DELHI, DHNS: I.N.D.I.A bloc parties are likely to meet on June 8 to discuss political developments after the Assembly elections, in which regional parties like the Trinamool Congress and DMK suffered setbacks while the Congress managed to win Kerala.

The meeting comes as the Opposition seeks to project a united front against the BJP-led Union government, which is looking to expand its influence at a time when cracks have appeared in the Opposition bloc following the DMK's exit after the Congress sided with Vijay-led TVK in Tamil Nadu.

While no official announcement has been made, some Opposition leaders said there have been informal consultations on the schedule. A senior leader told *DH*, "It is in the air. There is no direct communication about the meeting."

Another leader said the Congress is yet to reach out, while Trinamool leaders have spoken to them. The top Congress leadership is held up with discussions on Cabinet formation in Karnataka, where a leadership change has been effected.

It remains to be seen whether the TVK will join the meeting whenever it is convened.

Though floor leaders held regular meetings during Parliament sessions, the last time top leaders of the I.N.D.I.A bloc sat together was just before the special sitting of Parliament in April, to strategise on defeating the BJP government's delimitation bill. A similar meeting was held on June 1, 2024, after polling for the Lok Sabha elections.

With the Narendra Modi government set to renew its attempt to pass the delimitation bill, the Opposition will be scrambling to replicate the April voting pattern, when the ruling BJP failed to secure the two-thirds majority needed for its passage.

Vijay says it out loud: Tamil Nadu politics is now TVK vs DMK

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay in Tiruchirappalli. PTI

In his first political speech after assuming office on May 10, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay on Monday dismissed Opposition parties' charges of "horse-trading" and launched a blistering attack on the DMK and the AIADMK for attempting to cobble together a coalition to prevent his Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) from forming the government.

At a rally in Tiruchirapalli (East), the seat from which he resigned after retaining Perambur, Vijay reiterated that politics in TN will continue to revolve around the TVK and the DMK, while dismissing the AIADMK and the BJP as "others who don't matter anymore" in the state.

This was seen as Vijay extending an "open invitation" to leaders of the Edappadi K Palaniswami-led AIADMK, whose four MLAs have already resigned their posts to join the ruling party. They are part of the steady stream of migration from the AIADMK to the TVK since the election results were announced.

The address

His 20-minute speech did not touch upon critical issues like the fulfilment of poll promises or pressing problems like frequent power cuts across the state, especially in Chennai. Laced with cinematic dialogue and long pauses, it was carefully drafted to buy time from the people to implement poll promises. The CM effectively accused the previous DMK government of mismanaging finances and the law-and-order situation.

"We have received enormous support from the people, and we don't have to indulge in such activities," he said on the horse-trading allegations, while asking people to vote for the TVK candidate — a local functionary — in the ensuing by-election.

Launching an all-round attack on the DMK, Vijay said the previous government's failure to prevent the unprecedented proliferation of a drug culture was the reason for the rise in crime under his government.

Vijay also defended his choice of attire — a black blazer, white shirt, and black trousers — and said he wore only black and white, which symbolised the human heart.

Trinamool expels two MLAs after 'fake signature' row

KOLKATA, DHNS: The Trinamool Congress on Monday expelled two of its legislators after a fake signature controversy following a remark by West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari.

TMC suspended Sandipan Saha and Ritabrata Bandopadhyay, who were elected from the Entally and Uluberia Purba constituencies, respectively, in the recent Assembly elections.

The party acted against Sandipan and Ritabrata after Adhikari told journalists that the BJP government had ordered a CID investigation after the Speaker of the state's Legislative Assembly received a complaint from the two legislators. The duo, the chief minister revealed, alleged that their signatures had been forged on the resolution appointing veteran TMC legislator Sovandeb Chattopadhyay as the leader of the party in the state Assembly.

Ritabrata, then a member of the Rajya Sabha, was expelled by CPM in 2017. TMC had sent him to the Rajya Sabha again in 2024.

"I thank the CPM for expelling him. Our mistake was giving him a ticket after he came and fell at my feet seeking an opportunity. We trusted him and even denied tickets to others to accommodate him. He has now betrayed the party and the people who elected him," said TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee.

Sandipan is the son of TMC leader Swarna Kamal Saha, who had won from Entally thrice since 2011, before the party decided to field the veteran leader's son this year.

"We are happy that they have left. We will rebuild the party. Such people were never our assets," said Mamata.

Suvendu told journalists on Monday that the names of 10 out of 70 legislators on the resolution supporting the election of Sovandeb were in block letters, raising questions over authenticity.

Sena leaders call for joining hands

CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR, PTI: At least two senior leaders of the Shiv Sena and Sena (UBT) have stressed the need for coming together of the rival factions led by Eknath Shinde and Uddhav Thackeray, respectively, citing the threat to their existence from the "common enemy", the BJP..

Sena (UBT) leader Ambadas Danve said the BJP is trying to finish off the Shiv Sena and gave an analogy of big fish eating small fish.

Senior Shiv Sena leader Abdul Sattar also echoed the same sentiment.

People gather as smoke billows after a major blaze gutted several shops at a fish market near Press Chhak, in Cuttack, on Monday. No casualty has been reported so far. PTI

Kavitha threatens to smash AP leaders' statues in Telangana

HYDERABAD, DHNS: Telangana Rakshana Sena chief and former MP K Kavitha issued a sharp warning to Andhra Pradesh leaders on Monday, threatening to smash their statues in Telangana and parcel them back to the neighbouring state the moment her party returned to power.

Kavitha's combative remarks came during a meeting with the families of Telangana martyrs, held against the backdrop of rising interstate political friction.

Tensions had been simmering after reports emerged that Jana Sena chief and Andhra Pradesh Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan was planning to address a party meeting in Hyderabad on Tuesday — Telangana Formation Day — under the banner of "rebuilding Telangana".

Kavitha also took direct aim at Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's recent unveiling of an NTR statue in Hyderabad, calling it part of a deliberate conspiracy to erode Telangana's cultural and political identity.

GENE BREAKTHROUGH

Study finds path to tailored immunotherapy for oral cancer

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Indian biologists have discovered the underlying genetic signatures of the most common type of oral cancer, which doctors can use to identify patients who may respond better to a new class of cancer therapy.

Relying on the expressions of three specific genes, scientists — including a researcher from Yenepoya University in Mangaluru — are now developing a low-cost diagnostic tool that could eventually help clinics segregate such patients for immunotherapy.

India bears the highest burden of oral cancer in the world, with its most common form — gingivo-buccal oral cancer, also most common in men — affecting the inner cheek and gum but not the tongue.

Doctors currently treat most patients using combinations of surgery, radiation therapy, and chemotherapy. But these treatments do not work equally well for all patients.

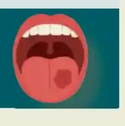
One possible reason, scientists argue, is that cancers in different patients behave differently due to variations in gene expression — the process through which genetic information is translated into action in the body.

Gene breakthrough

Three key genes identified for patient segregation in immunotherapy

India bears highest burden of oral cancer globally

Country accounts for 30% of cases; late detection drives high mortality



To investigate this further, researchers examined cancer tissues from 72 patients and identified ways to separate oral cancer cases into two distinct biological groups by estimating the gene-expression levels in their cancer cells.

Lab tests suggest that patients who belong to the largest group may respond better to modern immune-based treatments.

"We will validate the data in a larger sample and also work on developing a prototype of a low-cost diagnostic chipset," team leader Partha Majumder, emeritus professor at the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, told *DH*, noting that clinical trials would be required before doctors can adopt such a technique.

Majumder and his colleagues from top institutes and hospitals in the country, including from Kolkata and Bengaluru, examined the activity of thousands of genes in each tumour sample.

By studying which genes were highly active and which were not, they understood how cancer grows and interacts with the body, and found a way to distinguish between two biological groups of patients.

The team of researchers identified three genes that could help distinguish between the two patient groups in 86% cases, suggesting that a laboratory test based on these genes may help doctors identify whether a patient will benefit from immunotherapy.

Bengaluru Tuesday, June 2, 2026 Pages 16 Vol 79 No 152 ₹7

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The Power of Good

Patidar's power game took shape in UAE

Ex-teammate Pavan Deshpande recalls RCB skipper's journey

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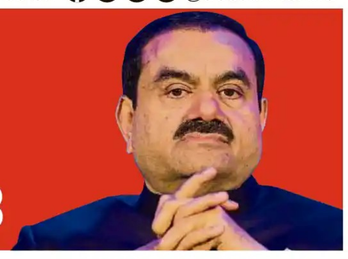

Nation

Cow national animal demand 'double standards': Yogi P.9

Sports

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ED raids B'luru firm for cheating banks P.3

SC declines plea for NEET retest in computer mode

Highlights challenges in organising fresh examination

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Members of Krantikari Yuva Sangathan protest against the National Testing Agency in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

The Supreme Court on Monday declined to immediately entertain a plea seeking a direction to conduct the retest of the NEET-UG 2026 examination, scheduled for June 21, in computer-based test (CBT) mode instead of the conventional pen-and-paper format.

A bench of Justices P S Narasimha and Aravind Kumar made it clear at the outset that it was not inclined to take up the matter right away.

The petitioners, represented by advocate Satyam Singh, pressed for the retest to be held in CBT mode.

However, Justice Narasimha pointed out that similar pleas had already been dismissed and highlighted the significant challenges involved in organising a fresh examination following the cancellation.

"We will keep it after vacation," the bench said, adjourning the plea to be heard in July along with other pending petitions related to reforms in the National Testing Agency (NTA) and paper leak cases.

The petition, filed by RJD MP Sudhakar Singh and others, has been tagged with broader pleas concerning the functioning of the NTA, the body responsible for conducting the NEET-UG examination.

On May 29, the Supreme Court described the cancellation of the NEET-UG 2026 exam — originally scheduled for May 3 — as "traumatic", underscoring the immense emotional investment and aspirations of students.

The court raised questions about the paper leak and emphasised the need for accountability, while urging the NTA to draw lessons from the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) 's leak-free track record.

The examination was cancelled on May 12 following allegations of a paper leak.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is currently probing the case, with reports indicating that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is personally monitoring the issue to prevent any lapses in the process.

Re-evaluation site launch delayed

The launch of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) re-evaluation portal was delayed after ethical hackers reported security breaches. The portal was scheduled to go live on Monday morning, but it could not go live until late evening. Sources said it would go live once the breaches were fixed. **Details on Page 8**

CJP founder to return on June 6

Cockroach Janta Party founder Abhijeet Dipke on Monday said he would return to India from Boston on June 6 to launch a peaceful protest seeking the resignation of Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. In a video released on Instagram and X, Dipke called on supporters of the CJP to join the protest in Delhi. **Details on Page 8**

Entry-level IT hiring dips as firms seek experience

Openings down by 3,000 in one month for pros with up to 2 years experience

DH SPECIAL

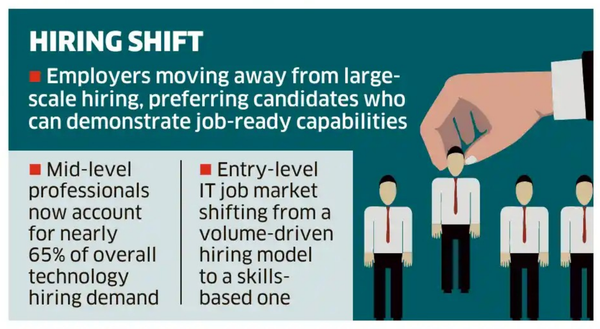
UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

Entry-level hiring is becoming increasingly challenging for freshers as Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and IT services firms prioritise specialised skills and professionals who can be deployed immediately on digital transformation projects.

According to Bengaluru-based specialist staffing firm Xpheno, opportunities for technology professionals with up to two years of experience have fallen to 10,000 openings in June 2026, down from 13,000 in May and marking a steep 44% decline compared to June 2025.

While entry-level openings are down, overall, GCCs are projected to account for 17,000 openings in June, representing 18% of the total active demand for technology talent and is expected to see about 93,000 technology job openings this month.

"The overall demand volume from GCCs has recorded a significant 31% year-on-year increase," said Kamal Karanth, co-founder of Xpheno.


HIRING SHIFT
Employers moving away from large-scale hiring, preferring candidates who can demonstrate job-ready capabilities
Mid-level professionals now account for nearly 65% of overall technology hiring demand
Entry-level IT job market shifting from a volume-driven hiring model to a skills-based one

Industry experts say entry-level IT job market is shifting from a volume-driven hiring model to a skills-based one. "Fresher hiring has not disappeared, but companies are becoming more selective and increasingly prioritising candidates with practical exposure to AI, cloud, automation, cybersecurity, data engineering and full-stack technologies," Kapil Joshi, CEO, IT Staffing, Quess Corp, told *DH*.

Employers are also moving away from large-scale hiring and placing emphasis on candidates with job-ready capabilities, said Peush Saproo, associate director and Head of Sales, Permanent Recruitment, Adecco India.

Currently, around 32% of fresher job postings are concentrated in software and hardware roles, with strong demand for skills in cloud computing, AI, cybersecurity, data engineering and software development, he added.

Compared to traditional IT services firms, GCCs continue to be the primary driver of technology hiring.

"GCCs have increased their share of overall IT demand from nearly 15% in 2024 to 27% in 2025, accounting for almost 73% of new technology jobs. Demand is strong for deployment-ready professionals in areas like GenAI, MLOps, cloud automation, FinOps and cybersecurity," Joshi said.

▸ **Hiring dips, Page 5**

Fresh tensions as Iran suspends deal talks via mediators with US

TEHRAN, AFP: Iran's Tasnim news agency said Tehran was suspending all exchanges with mediators in peace talks with the United States on Monday, blaming Israel's ongoing invasion of Lebanon.

"Given the continuing crimes of the Zionist regime (Israel) in Lebanon and considering that Lebanon was one of the preconditions for the ceasefire and that this ceasefire has now been violated on all fronts, including Lebanon, the Iranian negotiating team is suspending dialogues and exchange of texts through mediators," Tasnim reported.

It said Iran was demanding the "immediate cessation" of Israel's military operations in Gaza and Lebanon and its withdrawal from areas it occupied in its northern neighbour as a precondition for resuming talks.

Vessels at the Strait of Hormuz, as seen from Musandam in Oman. REUTERS

Israel's military has pushed further into southern Lebanon than at any time since it ended its occupation of the region in 2000. On Monday, it warned residents of Beirut's southern suburbs to evacuate ahead of strikes.

Tasnim also reported that Iran had "set their determination to completely block the Strait of Hormuz and activate other fronts, including the Bab al-Mandab Strait", at the entrance to the Red Sea.

K'taka Cong leaders meet high command for Cabinet talks

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Senior Congress leaders held preliminary meetings on Monday to prepare a list of candidates for the new state Cabinet under D K Shivakumar, who takes oath as the chief minister on June 3.

Caretaker Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, along with his son Yatindra and former minister KJ George, met Congress General Secretary (Organisation) KC Venugopal to discuss and prepare a probable list of ministers. General Secretary (in-charge) Karnataka Randeep Surjewala was also present. Shivakumar met Surjewala separately.

Sources said that the leaders are expected to finalise the list tonight and submit it to Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge.

▸ **Cabinet, Page 4**

'Upset' TN former BJP chief Annamalai to quit party today

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

Former Karnataka-cadre IPS officer K Annamalai will quit the BJP on Tuesday, bringing down the curtains on his eventful six-year tenure in the saffron party.

K Annamalai

Annamalai will formally convey his decision to quit the party to BJP president Nitin Nabin during their meeting on Tuesday, during which he will explain reasons for his resignation.

The decision by Annamalai, who was touted as the BJP's future in Tamil Nadu during his tenure as the state unit chief from 2021 to 2025, was not entirely surprising as he was upset with the saffron party for aligning with the AIADMK against his advice.

He had always believed that the BJP would grow in the state only if it contested independently for a few elections, but electoral and political calculations forced the national leadership to revive ties with the AIADMK – an alliance that ultimately faced a drubbing.

Annamalai had expressed his displeasure to the high command over the manner in which the seat-sharing talks with the AIADMK were conducted and questioned the nature of the seats allotted to the BJP.

"Annamalai has decided to quit the BJP. He will submit his resignation on Tuesday," a source aware of the developments told *DH*.

"He will be in New Delhi on Tuesday to thank BJP leaders for the opportunities given to him in the past six years. It is more of a courtesy meeting," the source added.

▸ **Annamalai, Page 5**

Commercial LPG prices continue to climb, up by Rs 42

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Prices of commercial LPG cylinders, the ones used in hotels and restaurants, were increased by Rs 42 per 19-kg unit on Monday, while rates for domestic LPG cylinders remained unchanged.

The new price of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder in Delhi now stands at Rs 3,113.50, up from Rs 3,071.50, according to industry sources. The latest increase follows a sharp Rs 993 hike implemented on May 1.

Prices of 5-kg free-trade LPG (FTL) cylinders were also increased by Rs 11 to Rs 821.50 per cylinder.

While commercial LPG prices have climbed to record highs, household cooking gas rates have remained unchanged despite a sharp rise in import costs, underscoring the government's efforts to shield consumers from global energy volatility, government sources said. The price of the 14.2-kg domestic cylinder remains at Rs 913.

The revisions are part of the monthly price review undertaken by state-owned oil marketing companies. Prices vary from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes, such as VAT.

(With agency inputs)

SHAKY STAR

Workers remove a statue of Argentine football player Lionel Messi for its re-installation to a safer place in Kolkata on Monday. The statue was said to have been swaying in the wind. AFP

Quickly

GST collection slips to Rs 1.94 lakh cr in May

Revenue collection from GST slipped to Rs 1.94 lakh crore in May from a record Rs 2.42 lakh crore registered in the previous month. However, on a year-on-year basis the gross GST revenue collection was 3.2% higher in May. **Details on Page 12**

Chaos during RCB win celebrations

Celebrations following Royal Challengers Bengaluru's (RCB) triumph in the IPL finals descended into chaos in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, and parts of Hyderabad, as fans allegedly damaged public property and brought traffic to a standstill. In Kurnool, a group of fans blocked traffic while others hurled stones at a parked private bus, shattering its windows and causing extensive damage. **Details on Page 9**

Industrial output growth dips to 4.9%

India's industrial production expanded at a slower pace of 4.9% in April due to tepid growth in the energy sector amid the West Asia crisis, according to official data released on Monday. This is the first data released after the revision in base year to 2022-23. The factory output, measured in terms of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), expanded by 5.7% in April 2025. **Details on Page 12**

Monsoon to arrive in Kerala in 2-3 days: IMD

The southwest monsoon is expected to arrive in Kerala in the next two to three days, the India Meteorological Department said in its forecast on Friday. Typically, the monsoon season begins around June 1.

HC judge's 'chop hands' remark to enforce law

Only if you chop a leg or hand would people perhaps realise how to comply with the law, Justice R Nataraj of the Karnataka High Court observed orally during the hearing of a bail petition filed by an engineering student in a case of alleged rape. **Details on Page 3**

JEE advanced: 2 from state get 12th, 13th ranks

Two students from the state have bagged the 12th and 13th ranks at the all-India level of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay zone in the Joint Entrance Examination Advanced. Shubham Kumar from Delhi zone is the national topper. **Details on Page 3**

Karnataka sets up Quantum Task Force

The state government has constituted a 16-member Quantum Task Force to steer forward the Karnataka Quantum Mission. The mission aims to push Karnataka as a national hub for quantum technology, research, and innovation. **Details on Page 5**

BRANCHING OUT

Amid West Asia turmoil, K'taka turns to US, UK mango markets

ASHWIN B M
BENGALURU, DHNS

STATE STANDING

- **Rank in India: 3rd largest mango producer** (as of 2025)
- **Total farming land: 1,45,000 hectares** (Increased by 6,000 hectares)
- **Total exported so far: 185 tonnes** (85 tonnes from govt centre, 100 tonnes from private groups)
- **Main export countries:** USA, UK, Germany, Ireland, Australia and the Netherlands
- **Top growing districts:** Kolar, Chikkaballapur, Ramanagara, Koppal and Tumakuru

Facing trade issues in traditional West Asian markets and crop losses at home, Karnataka's mango sector is shifting to Western markets, online sales and direct company tie-ups to help farmers get fair prices this season.

Due to flight cancellations and regional tensions in the Gulf, which is usually a major market for the state, Karnataka has instead exported over 183 tonnes of mangoes this year to the US, UK, Australia and Europe.

B C Muddugangadhar, chairman of the Karnataka State Mango Development and Marketing Corporation Ltd, told *DH*, that entering these premium markets requires strict safety checks. While shipments to Europe and the UK are moving smoothly, the US and Australia require "special treatment".

"The special treatment requires that after the mangoes are packed, they must go through gamma radiation at special centres to clear out any tiny insects before export," Muddugangadhar explained. He also clarified that Japan has not rejected Indian mangoes, they just want the same strict safety checks as in the US.

India is the world's largest producer of mangoes, contributing nearly 45% of global mango production. India produces nearly 25-26 million tonnes of mangoes annually. Karnataka ranked third in production (2025).

Uttar Pradesh is the leading mango-producing state in the country. Apart from Uttar Pradesh, states such as Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are major contributors to India's mango economy.

"In the UK, people mostly eat thick-skinned mangoes from Mexico, Cuba or China, which do not have much taste," Muddugangadhar said.

▸ **Mango, Page 5**

A crane clears the lorry involved in the accident on Airport Road near Esteem Mall on Monday. The incident caused severe traffic congestion during peak hours.
DH PHOTO/BK JANARDHAN

Rice-laden lorry overturns near Hebbal; hits traffic for 3 hours

BENGALURU, DHNS: A lorry laden with rice overturned near the Esteem Mall skywalk on Hebbal Main Road on Monday morning, triggering a gridlock that lasted over three hours.

No casualties were reported.

The lorry, bearing Andhra Pradesh registration AP 02 TE 5889 and carrying 30 tonnes of rice from Anantapur, struck a road divider and overturned around 5 am.

The Hebbal Traffic Police said the driver had fallen asleep at the wheel.

Though the accident occurred in the early hours, it paralysed traffic between 8 am and 11 am, a peak window for IT professionals and airport-bound commuters, with vehicles crawling bumper-to-bumper.

While police attributed the crash to driver fatigue, commuters pointed to poor road design at the spot by the National Highways Authority of India.

"This is a failure of the NHAI Regional Office, Bengaluru," alleged a regular commuter of the stretch.

"They allow vehicles to halt randomly near the skywalk, and there is a poorly placed hump right at the down ramp. It is a perfect recipe for any heavy, overloaded lorry to lose control. While the traffic police did a commendable job helping clear the spilled goods, the infrastructure itself is a hazard."

87 vehicles seized on IPL final night

BENGALURU, DHNS: The city police seized 87 vehicles for law and order and traffic violations on the night of the IPL final between Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Gujarat Titans (GT) on Sunday.

Of the vehicles seized, 83 were two-wheelers, three were autorickshaws, and one was a car.

"Further legal action will be taken against the riders and drivers of these vehicles," police said in a statement.

Senior officers and personnel were deployed on patrol duty. Check-posts were established across the city, and police inspected vehicles involved in stunt riding, triple riding, and other suspicious activity.

A total of 99 vehicle-checking and nakabandi points were set up, while 721 beat patrol and 270 combined beat patrol were deployed. Police inspected 2,502 two-wheelers, 556 autorickshaws, and 458 four-wheelers during the operation.

While the city remained largely peaceful, some people under the influence of alcohol engaged in unruly behaviour in parts of the city. Police dispersed them and ensured no untoward incidents occurred.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	31.6°C
Minimum	21.0°C

Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	NIL
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	52%
Sunset (Jun 2)	6:43 pm
Sunrise (Jun 3)	5:52 am
Moonrise	7:43 pm
Moonset	6:18 am

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

Man sits on road as pregnant wife gets stuck due to Guv convoy

Incident sparks widespread online debate on VIP culture

BENGALURU, DHNS

A man staged a sit-in protest on Old Airport Road on Sunday evening, claiming his pregnant wife was stuck in their vehicle in a gridlock caused by a 30-minute traffic block enforced for the Karnataka Governor's convoy.

The incident triggered widespread anger and debate on social media over VIP culture on the city's already congested roads.

The Bengaluru Traffic Police blocked Old Airport Road completely for 30 minutes to clear a corridor for the Governor's movement.

The road is already a bottleneck due to ongoing underpass construction.

The sudden stoppage led to bumper-to-bumper congestion, holding up hundreds of commuters.

Visibly distressed, the motorist stepped out of his car and sat down on the road in front of deployed police personnel.

Refusing to budge, he gestured desperately at the officers, telling them his pregnant wife was inside the car and needed urgent medical attention.

The man sat on Old Airport Road, while explaining to a traffic police officer that his pregnant wife was stuck inside their car.

COMMUTER (ON X)

"When will public convenience matter as much as VIP convenience? Old Airport Road is already choking under underpass construction. To halt it completely for 30 minutes is pure insensitivity.

"Sir, my wife is pregnant," he was heard shouting at the traffic police, questioning the priority given to high-profile dignitaries over a medical emergency.

Fellow commuters captured the confrontation on their smartphones, and videos of the man protesting before a police officer went viral, drawing sharp criticism online. Citizens questioned the accountability of authorities who manage VIP transit without keeping adequate emergency contingencies in place on narrow, construction-hit corridors.

"When will public convenience matter as much as VIP convenience? Old Airport Road is already choking under underpass construction. To halt it completely for 30 minutes is pure insensitivity," wrote a commuter on X.

Local residents expressed solidarity with the protester. "When will the convenience and lives of regular citizens and patients become as important as VIP comfort?" a resident questioned online.

Tree felling, setback concerns hit BDA project

HSR complex leased for 30 years, with extension option

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

A proposal to cut 184 trees inside the BDA complex in HSR Layout has come under scrutiny as most of the trees are located on the property's periphery.

The proposal to remove young and healthy trees is an indication that the firm that leased the complex for 60 years is beginning constructions at what should have been the setback area.

Last week, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) issued a public notice seeking objections and suggestions on a proposal to cut 184 trees to redevelop the BDA shopping complex under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.

The project involves razing the existing structure and building a new shopping facility.

This reporter visited the site to find several mature trees standing on the property's boundary, both on the entrance and along its edges.

The tree inventory submitted for approval included several species like honge, rain tree, arali and tabebuia, many of which provide substantial canopy cover to the premises.

While setback areas are generally excluded from permanent construction, these trees are marked for felling. The site visit also revealed construction activities along the edges. A dozen shops are being built close to the compound wall, prompting questions whether the redevelopment is carried out in adherence to norms and sanctioned building plans.

In 2023-24, the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) leased 19,720 sqm of land — where the HSR Layout BDA complex is located — to M-FAR Developers, a Bengaluru-based real estate and construction company.

As a part of the deal, the civic body authorised the firm to build 49,300 sqm of build-up area, including two basement areas, a ground and eight floors. The company will pay the BDA Rs 9.31 crore per annum. Although the lease is for 30 years, it could be extended for a further 30 years.

After the agreement surfaced, residents came under the banner 'Save BDA Complex' and staged a protest, but the government went ahead with the plan.

Residents said HSR Layout has already been commercialised, noting that the BDA is leasing out the prime land cheaply.

Shops under construction along the tree-lined edge of the BDA complex in HSR Layout.

A green canopy envelops the BDA complex in HSR Layout, now leased to a private firm for commercial development.
DH PHOTOS/NAVEEN MENEZES

Felling fears

Opposing the tree felling, Alexander James from the Environmental Impact Group said, "People are unaware of the re-development plans as well as the felling of trees. We will not allow butchering of trees that are healthy and young. We will bring together organisations and citizens to express our opposition to tree felling by holding a peaceful protest at the site very shortly."

A senior BDA official promised to look into the matter related to tree felling and setback violations.

GBA deletes post asking citizens to walk after pushback

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has deleted its social media post urging citizens to walk for a kilometre, as netizens demanded walkable footpaths while accepting the challenge.

"Okay GBA, I accept the #1kmchallenge. I will walk 1 kilometre. Now, a #1kmchallenge for you: Build 1 kilometre of footpath somewhere," Ramesh Srivats, who has over 3.7 million followers, posted on X.

The GBA posted in its official handle last week asking citizens to walk for short distances instead of riding in autorickshaws to reduce pollution and stay fit. The post had hashtags like #WalkForClimate, #ClimateActionStartsWithYou, and #GreenBengaluru.

The civic body also urged citizens to ask themselves if they could walk the distance before hailing an auto. It also listed out the benefits of walking for 10 minutes such as cutting carbon footprint, improved health, easing traffic, and building a walkable Bengaluru.

Netizens pushed back, pointing at damaged and encroached footpaths.

"There isn't a 100m proper walkway in Bangalore. Either littered, encroached or broken. Many times, non-existent. Before asking people to use pathways repair it make it functional," wrote a user.

After urging citizens to choose walking over short auto rides, the GBA faced backlash from netizens who questioned the city's pedestrian infrastructure.

"Very good initiative. Can you make sure footpaths are everywhere without garbage, parking, restaurants and hawkers," wrote another.

Many shared pictures of battered or dirty footpaths in their areas, asking the GBA to fix them first.

Pointing to the state of the city's infrastructure, one responder challenged the authorities to "publicise a map list of 1km footpaths and roads in Bangalore that are walking friendly".

GBA Chief Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao told *DH* that the intention was to encourage citizens to walk and also share grievances on bad footpaths.

50-year-old man loses Rs 5.95 cr to online investment scam

BENGALURU, DHNS: A 50-year-old man from northwest Bengaluru lost a whopping Rs 5.95 crore in an elaborate fake online investment scam, officials said on Monday.

Police said the victim was introduced to "PU Prime" through some of his friends who informed him about online trading opportunities on the platform.

Since he was not well-versed in online trading and investments, he began seeking professional guidance online and came across a person named Shilpa Shivakumar through Google and Facebook.

After discussing trading activities, the two agreed on a profit-sharing arrangement for which she would guide him. She then made him register on a fraudulent platform by telling him it was for Indian traders.

The victim told the police he began trading on that platform, and the dashboard showed "substantial profits". Since he could withdraw some amount initially, he grew more confident.

To verify the authenticity of the platform, without informing the suspects, he opened another account on the same platform, and since it also showed profits, he believed it was genuine. He did not realise that the fraudulent platform was manipulated to show fake profits, police said.

After continued persuasion by the suspects, the victim invested Rs 5.95 crore from his and his wife's accounts. "The accused persons continuously persuaded me to increase my investments by highlighting the substantial profits reflected in my trading account, which ultimately showed profits amounting to approximately Rs 50 crore," the victim was quoted as saying in the FIR.

He approached the cyber crime police on May 28 and registered a case.

TENDER NOTICE

OFFICE OF THE DIGP GROUP CENTRE CRPF, YELAHANKA, BENGLURU-560064 invites sealed tender for running the following shops inside this Group Centre premises for initial period of 11 months.

1. Stationary/Fancy Shop
2. Bakery Shop
3. Tailor Shop
4. Fruit and Juice shop
5. Fast Food Shop (Non veg)
6. Chicken Shop
7. Fish/Mutton Shop
8. Force Personnel Kit Items Shop

2. The tender forms, details of earnest money with terms and conditions may be obtained from Group Centre CRPF Yelahanka, Bengalure-560064 within 14 days from the date of advertisement. Priority will be given to retired force personnel and their dependent, veer nari, widows of force personnel.

Order by
DIGP, GC CRPF BENGALURU

BDA assures 30-metre buffer around Byalakere Lake

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) has undertaken to maintain a 30-metre buffer zone around Byalakere Lake while carrying out development works in the Shivaram Karanth Layout in north Bengaluru.

The assurance was given in response to a petition filed by Babajan before the Southern Zone Bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT).

In its submission, the BDA stated that the only construction activity being undertaken near the lake is a 45-metre-wide road connecting Byalakere village and Byalakere Palya as part of the new layout.

The authority also referred to the reports of the Justice AV Chandrashekar Committee, stating that the development works were being carried out after the committee's recommendations had been placed before the Supreme Court.

"However, the BDA will maintain a 30-metre buffer zone around Byalakere Lake in the interest of being a model organisation and ensuring complete compliance with environmental norms," the BDA commissioner said in an affidavit filed before the tribunal.

2 labourers die in wall collapse

BENGALURU, DHNS: Two labourers died following a minor wall collapse on the city outskirts, officials said.

While the incident occurred in Bommashettihalli on Saturday following rains, news of the deaths surfaced only on Monday.

The deceased, 50-year-old Dyavanna from Yadgir and 35-year-old Babu Lal from Bihar, were among the eight labourers working at an under-construction warehouse.

Around 5.30 pm, as the workers got ready to leave, it began to rain.

Within a few moments, the wall collapsed on the two workers, killing them. A few others escaped with minor injuries, and are being treated at a hospital. The bodies of the deceased were moved for autopsy procedures.

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

Programme: Story Through My Eyes–Part 2, Unspoken Mysteries, Whispers of the Soil; Inauguration by Chiranth, Book Release: Dr CN Manjunath; Organised by Spark Lightning Minds Publications; Atta Galatta; Indiranagar; 10 am.

Convocation: Nrupathunga University; Presided over by Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot, Guests: MC Sudhakar, HS Raghavendra Rao, Mohan Kumar BK; Organised by Nripatunga University; Gnanajyoti Hall, Palace Road; 11 am.

Nalvadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar Award Presentation: Award Recipient: GR Channabasappa; Award presentation: HP Nagarajaiah, Chairman: RK Nallur Prasad; Kannada Janashakti; Nayana Hall, Ravindra Kalakshetra, JC Road; 5.15 pm.

Symposium on Environment and Energy: Speakers: Prakash Belawadi, Rudradeep Majumdar, AV Krishnan, PG Diwakar, Nagesh Siddhanti; Organised by Rotary International Districts 3191, 3192, Chanakya University Sustainability Center; Rotary House for Friendship, Lavelle Road; 5.30 pm.

26th Year Discourse: Organised by and venue: Ragigudda Sri Prasanna Anjaneyaswamy Bhakta Mandali Trust, Jayanagar 9th Block; 6.30 pm.

CULTURAL

Vyuha Mudra Drama: Performed by Utkarsh Abhinaya Team; Ranga Shankara; 7.30 pm.

Government of Jharkhand
Jharkhand Rural Health Mission Society
Department of Health, Medical Education & Family Welfare Namkum, Ranchi.
Phone No: 0651-2261000, 2261856 & 2261002
Mail ID: proc-health@jharkhandmail.gov.in

Tender Notice No. GEM/2026/B/7541666 Date: 01.06.2026

Tender Notice Through GeM Portal

Jharkhand Rural Health Mission Society, Namkum, Ranchi invites separate Technical and price Bids (Two Bid System) through tender from the registered and eligible firms for **"REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR THE SELECTION OF A SERVICE PROVIDER TO EQUIP, OPERATE 500 EMERGENCY MEDICAL AMBULANCE SERVICE (EMAS) AND INTEGRATE 108 CALL CENTRE UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, MEDICAL EDUCATION & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND".**
The Blank tender documents with detailed conditions can be obtained through web site http://gem.gov.in.

Sl. No.	Particulars	Details
1	Name of Work	REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR THE SELECTION OF A SERVICE PROVIDER TO EQUIP, OPERATE 500 EMERGENCY MEDICAL AMBULANCE SERVICE (EMAS) AND INTEGRATE 108 CALL CENTRE UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, MEDICAL EDUCATION & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND.
2	Publication Date of Tender on website	01/06/2026
3	Pre-Bid Meeting Date and Time	10/06/2026 at 12:00 PM (R.C.H. Conference Hall, Namkum, Ranchi, Jharkhand-834010)
4	Last Date & time for receipt of bid on website	24/06/2026 at 02:00 PM
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bid through website	24/06/2026 at 02:30 PM
6	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	3,00,00,000/- (Three Crore Only)
7	Contact no. of procurement person	9110943588

Note:-The above dates may change due to abrupt declaration of holidays. Hard copies of Technical Bid will not be entertained.

Sd/-
State Nodal Officer Procurement Cell,
Jharkhand Rural Health Mission Society,
Namkum, Ranchi

PR 381245 Health Med Edu and Family Welfare(26-27)#D

FROM FARM TO FRUIT BASKET

Lalbagh's mango and jackfruit mela returns from June 4

BC Muddugangadhar, Chairman, Karnataka State Mango Development Board (KSMDB); Ibrahim Maigur, Director, Department of Horticulture; TR Vedhamurthy, Managing Director, KSMDB; and M Jagadeesh, Additional Director of Horticulture, at the mela announcement.

BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru's annual mango and jackfruit mela will be held at the Lalbagh Botanical Garden from June 4 to 30, offering citizens a wide range of naturally ripened fruits sourced directly from farmers across Karnataka.

Organised by the Karnataka State Mango Development and Marketing Corporation and the Department of Horticulture, the 27-day fair comes at a challenging time for growers. Unseasonal weather across the state has reduced yields and delayed harvesting this season.

Despite the setback, the government aims to eliminate middlemen and create a direct link between farmers and consumers.

"Our main goal is to provide buyers with naturally ripened, chemical-free fruits directly from farmers," said BC Muddugangadhar, Chairman of the Karnataka State Mango Development Board.

"This model ensures fair prices for growers while consumers get quality produce at reasonable rates."

To support growers, the board has allotted 168 stalls to mango farmers and 17 stalls to jackfruit farmers free of cost. Farmers from major fruit-growing districts, including Kolar, Chikkaballapur, Bengaluru Rural, Tumakuru, Mandya, Koppal and Dharwad, will participate in the mela.

In addition to fresh fruits, visitors can purchase a range of value-added products such as juices, jams, pickles, dried fruit slices, chips, pulp, candy and ice creams made from mangoes and jackfruit. The initiative is aimed at helping farmers increase their earnings through processed products.

The finest on display

The mela will showcase 65 varieties of mangoes and 15 varieties of jackfruit.

Around 18 to 20 popular mango varieties will be available for sale every day, including Badami and Ratnagiri Alphonso, Raspuri, Mallika, Sendura, Himam Pasand, Kesar, Sugar Baby, Dasheri, Baneshan, and Malgova.

Jackfruit enthusiasts can choose from seven local varieties, including Tubagere, Lalbagh Madhura, Rudrakshi, Shivaratri, Surya, and Chandra.

Bengaluru airport wins award for safety mgmt

BENGALURU, DHNS: Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) has received the Diamond Award, the highest recognition at the Airports Council International (ACI) Asia-Pacific & Middle East Safety Recognition Awards 2026, for its efforts in safety management and innovation-led solutions.

The award recognises airports that demonstrate strong safety practices and innovation in airport operations. According to the Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), the airport operator, the recognition was based on initiatives aimed at improving runway safety and strengthening safety management systems.

Among the measures highlighted were the airport's 'Runway Safety Team', a runway safety maturity matrix developed in-house, programmes to improve pilot awareness, measures to address identified runway hotspots, and enhanced management of foreign object debris on airside areas.

Air India Express launches direct flights from B'luru to Phuket

BENGALURU, DHNS: Air India Express on Monday commenced direct flights between Bengaluru and Phuket, expanding air connectivity between Karnataka and Thailand.

The inaugural service departed from Bengaluru on June 1. The airline will be operating four weekly flights on the route. The new service complements the carrier's existing daily Bengaluru–Bangkok flights, which were introduced last year.

The flights to Phuket will operate on Mondays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

The airline stated that the addition of the Phuket service is part of its broader strategy to strengthen connectivity from major Indian cities to destinations across Southeast Asia and the Middle East.

Air India Express currently operates nearly 500 weekly flights from Bengaluru, connecting the city to 31 domestic and eight international destinations.

Malpe: Bengaluru tourist, swept away by sea, dies

UDUPI: A 31-year-old tourist from Bengaluru died after being swept away by a strong wave while visiting Kodi Bengre Delta Beach near Malpe.

The deceased has been identified as Kushal S.

According to a complaint lodged by his wife, Monica, they, with their child, had arrived in Udupi on a three-day vacation. A wave struck him when Kushal was washing his feet in the water. He lost his balance and was washed away. Though he was rescued and rushed to a hospital in Manipal for treatment, he failed to respond and died on Sunday.

The Malpe police have registered a case of unnatural death under Section 194 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

Public prosecutor arrested for taking Rs 5,000 bribe

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Lokayukta police on Monday arrested a public prosecutor for allegedly taking a Rs 5,000 bribe.

The arrested suspect is Savitha Naveen Patil, 55, a public prosecutor at the City Civil and Sessions Court (CCH-54), Bengaluru.

According to officials, Savitha had demanded a bribe of Rs 5,000 from the complainant, a resident of Banashankari, to submit objections in a case registered at the CK Achukattu police station in Bengaluru.

Following the complaint, Lokayukta police set a trap.

High fares, fewer flights push B'lureans away from domestic air travel

Tourists opt for short int'l vacations, road-based trips.

Data from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for April showed a 4.2% drop in domestic passenger traffic, in comparison to the previous month.

ASRA MAVAD
BENGALURU, DHNS

Rising ticket prices and a declining number of operational flights are pushing Bengalureans away from domestic travel, said travel agents and industry insiders.

Data from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for April showed a 4.2% drop in domestic passenger traffic, in comparison to the previous month.

In April, cumulatively, airlines carried about 1.38 crore flyers, a 4.2% dip from March's traffic of 1.44 crore passengers.

The numbers also guideda dip when compared to data from April 2025, when travel had been impacted by the terror attack in Pahalgam, and the airlines had recorded 1.43 crore passengers.

Overall, the first half of 2026 has seen leaner domestic movement compared to previous years, shared industry experts, highlighting that the numbers are unlikely to pick up as the travel industry enters its lean months from June.

"One of the main reasons is that airlines have cut down on routes. Many have reduced operational routes by 20%, which has greatly impacted domestic travel. Lesser flights, higher fares are pushing people away from domestic air travel," said Rajiv Mehrotra, executive director, Holiday Concierge.

Tourists are now opting for short international vacations.

"With destination management companies (DMC) diverting their attention from the Gulf countries to South and Southeast Asian countries, travel to countries like Thailand, Vietnam, Nepal and Sri Lanka has become cheaper. There are cheaper packages available. So, people can travel to these countries in almost the same amount they'd spend on a trip to Kashmir," said Shamanth Krishnamurthy, proprietor, Sanman Travels.

The volatile nature of the aviation industry over the past few months has also made travellers wary, with many opting for road-based travel options when available.

As per DGCA data, during April, 1.1% of flights were delayed for more than two hours. Overall, over 1.35 lakh passengers were impacted by flight delays, 77,065 passengers faced flight cancellations, and 641 were denied boarding.

Bangalore International Airport Limited didn't respond to *DH*'s queries about Kempegowda International Airport's monthly domestic traffic data for 2026.

JEE Advanced results: Two from B'luru get AIR 12, 13

Decide to pursue Computer Science at IIT-Bombay

Manu Parameshwaran

Aryan Raghupathy

BENGALURU, DHNS

Two students from Karnataka have bagged All India Rank (AIR) 12 and 13 in the Common Rank List (Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay zone) in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Advanced, the results of which were announced on Monday.

Aryan Raghupathy of Emerald International School and a classroom student of Allen Bengaluru has secured 12th rank and emerged as the topper from the state.

Manu Parameshwaran, a student of Narayana Olympiad School in Sahakar Nagar - Bengaluru, has bagged 13th rank and emerged as the second topper.

Interestingly, both the toppers are from families with a technology background. Aryan's mother, father and elder brother are engineers by profession, and even Manu's father and mother are engineers.

Both the toppers decided to pursue Computer Science at IIT-Bombay.

Speaking after the results, Aryan said that it was not an easy task. "I must thank my faculties both at school and ALLEN, and my parents for the support which helped me to achieve these results. It was my dream to study at IIT." Aryan secured 94.8% in Class 12 and used to study for six hours every day.

Manu Parameshwaran, another topper, also expressed happiness and said, "I want to pursue Computer Science and aim to work in the field of engineering." The results were released by IIT-Roorkee, which was the organising institution this year.

This year, a total of 1,79,694 candidates appeared in both papers 1 and 2 in JEE (Advanced) held on May 17, 2026. In this exam, 56,880 candidates qualified. Out of the total qualified candidates, 10,107 are female candidates.

TOONS SET THE TONE

Students, dressed as cartoon characters, welcome children on the first day of school after the summer vacation at a government school at Nagashettihalli in Bengaluru, on Monday. Chief Minister-designate D K Shivakumar extended his best wishes to students for the new academic year. The Department of School Education has implemented the mobile-based Karnataka Advanced Attendance Management System from this academic year to monitor attendance of teaching and non-teaching staff. DH PHOTO/B K JANARDHAN

MSR group's RISM to offer STEM courses

BENGALURU DHNS: The MS Ramaiah (MSR) Group is establishing a Ramaiah Institute of Science and Management (RISM) in collaboration with the University of Albany (SUNY Albany), New York.

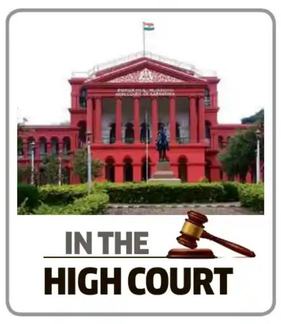
RISM will come up in Bengaluru and will be inaugurated on June 4. Addressing a news conference M R Jayaram, chairman of Gokula Education Foundation, which runs the MSR group of institutions, said on Monday, "It will be the country's first university offering STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and Management courses."

"Through this collaboration, it has been decided to start RISM. This will be India's first unique, completely new, fully equipped, deemed-to-be-university. This university is considered the next-generation STEM and Management institution. It will adopt globally benchmarked, industry-oriented engineering curricula, prioritising research. With international faculty, industry mentorship on campus and modern programs," he added.

Jayaram said RISM will offer undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in engineering, science, and business, including BTech in Computer Science-AI, Aerospace Engineering and Electrical Science and BBA (Technology Management).

People will obey laws if punishment like chopping limbs is imposed: HC

Court observes while hearing bail plea of engg student in rape case



BENGALURU, DHNS

If you chop a leg or hand, perhaps only then people will realise how to comply with law. Because we have a democracy, everybody takes it (for granted). Justice R Nataraj of the Karnataka High Court observed orally during the hearing of a bail petition filed by an engineering student in a case of alleged rape.

"People are committing crimes casually as well as in a routine manner, only because offenders are not dealt with firmly under the law...Law has lost its teeth because we don't deal with offenders firmly. That is why committing an offence has become so easy unlike in the Middle East," Justice Nataraj orally said

At the hearing, the counsel representing the petitioner submitted that the petitioner student is in judicial custody for almost two months though he did not commit any offence. The advocate said that the allegations are relating to an incident said to have occurred nearly three years ago. On the other hand, the police submitted that the petitioner and the complainant were classmates at an engineering college in Manipal.

The complainant stated that the incident happened on September 12, 2023, when the petitioner student persuaded her to accompany him to an apartment on the promise of discussing their friendship. The complainant alleged that the petitioner student allegedly sexually assaulted her at the apartment. The complainant claimed to have approached the National Commission for Women before approaching the Women Police Station with the complaint.

The court ordered notice to the state government and posted the matter to June 8 for further consideration

ED conducts raid on B'luru firm for cheating banks of Rs 899 crore

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday said that it raided a company in Bengaluru that allegedly cheated banks of Rs 899 crore. The search operations were conducted at various premises of individuals and entities related to M/S Deepak Cables (India) Limited on May 21 and 29.

During the search operations, various incriminating documents belonging to M/S Deepak Cables (India) Limited (DCIL), K Venkateswara Rao, Director, DCIL, Mahesh Agarwal (Kolkata), Director of M/S Adhunik Corporation Ltd, and others were seized under the provisions of the PMLA, 2002, the agency said.

The Enforcement Directorate seized gold jewellery and cash amounting to Rs 1.27 crore and provisionally froze various bank accounts containing Rs 18 crore.

The agency initiated an investigation based on an FIR registered by CBI against M/s Deepak Cables India Ltd (DCIL) and its director, K Venkateswara Rao and others, for allegedly cheating a consortium of banks led by SBI to the extent of Rs 899.35 crore by obtaining large credit facilities and diverting the loan funds.

Won't allow 'snatching' of cricket matches from B'luru: DKS

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister-designate D K Shivakumar on Monday said his government will ensure that key cricket matches, like the IPL final, are not moved out of Bengaluru.

The May 31 IPL final, which Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) won, was initially slated to take place at the M Chinnaswamy stadium here. However, it was shifted to the Narendra Modi stadium in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

"The finals should have been held in Karnataka (Bengaluru). We had given the permission for it. But Gujarat, by using its influence, has snatched it. We are making necessary preparations to ensure that such snatching doesn't happen. It will take time," Shivakumar told reporters.

"Injustice has been done to Bengaluru and Karnataka's youngsters. That's because the final match was supposed to be played here. They took it to Ahmedabad." Shivakumar said. "But the RCB team from here has played well, I congratulate them. They have made Karnataka proud," he added.

"I know all my youngsters of Karnataka are disappointed as they could not witness the final match in the Bengaluru stadium. The future is again with Karnataka," Shivakumar said.

D K SHIVAKUMAR
CM-designate

"The finals should have been held in Karnataka (Bengaluru). We had given the permission for it. But Gujarat, by using its influence, has snatched it. We are making necessary preparations to ensure that such snatching doesn't happen. It will take time.

'Edu policy in the offing'

Shivakumar said the government would unveil a new school education policy in the days to come. He said this while wishing students well for the new academic year that commenced Monday.

"We're moving into the age of Artificial Intelligence (AI). I will inform you about our government's plans on AI. I will inform you about Karnataka's new primary education policy," Shivakumar said.

Earlier this month, a Cabinet sub-committee was formed to study the State Education Policy (SEP) drafted by a panel that was headed by former University Grants Commission chairperson Sukhadeo Thorat. The SEP will replace the National Education Policy (NEP), which the Congress has decided not to implement in Karnataka.

With the resignation of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, and the subsequent dissolution of his Cabinet, Shivakumar will have to decide on SEP.

daCunha/AB/1104

BWSSB goes high tech again, this time to plug leakages, theft

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is set to use Artificial Intelligence, predictive analytics, and robotic inspection technologies to detect water theft and reduce leakages across the city's water distribution network.

As part of the initiative, the BWSSB has agreed to facilitate a joint pilot study by two startups, SmartTerra and Solinas, aimed at identifying sources of unaccounted-for water and reducing non-revenue water losses.

The project has been selected under the Titan Design Impact Awards 2.0 Deep Impact Phase and will be funded entirely through a grant from Titan Company Limited. Villgro is the incubation partner and WELL Labs the technical partner.

The year-long study will be implemented at zero cost to the BWSSB, with the utility providing support only for essential civil works such as excavation, pipe repairs, and replacement wherever required.

Smart systems

SmartTerra will deploy AI-driven predictive analytics to identify vulnerable pipeline segments and assess potential leakage risks before failures occur. The startup will also use acoustic sensing technology to pinpoint underground leak locations without extensive excavation.

Solinas will undertake robotic inspection of water pipelines, deploying robots inside distribution networks to detect structural defects, blockages, and hidden leakages that are otherwise difficult to identify through conventional methods.

The technologies are expected to help the BWSSB monitor water distribution patterns, assess demand, detect losses, improve billing efficiency, and strengthen revenue collection..

Board opens doors to startups

BWSSB Chairman Ram Prasath Manohar V said the water board is committed to creating opportunities for start-ups to validate and scale solutions that address real-world urban water challenges.

"The BWSSB is actively encouraging technology-led innovation in the water sector. We are opening our infrastructure as a 'test bed' for startups developing cutting-edge solutions for urban water management. Data-driven scientific approaches and digital workflows have the potential to significantly transform how cities manage water resources," he said.

Manohar added that priority zones for the pilot study will be identified shortly, following which field surveys and technology deployment will commence.

"Our primary objective is to reduce financial losses caused by water leakages and theft, while also preventing contamination arising from defects in the distribution network. If successful, these technologies could become an important component of Bengaluru's future water management strategy," he said.

IndianOil
CIN-L23201MH1959GOI011388

PUBLIC TENDER

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. plans to onboard suitable alliance partner(s) for developing, operating and maintaining Non-fuel Retail (NFR) facilities at Wayside Amenities (WSA) sites located on Delhi-Amritsar Katra Expressway (Haryana State) under Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) model. Interested Parties may refer to the detailed tender document with auction ID: 34867 (Reference No.: MnC/RS-1/PT-14/26-27) which is available in 'Forward auction tab' on GeM Portal (Website: https://gem.gov.in). Last date for submission of application is 26/06/2026 at 23.00 hrs. "This is a corrigendum to advertisement dt. 31.05.2026 and last date of bid submission to be read as 26.06.2026."

POWERGRID KHAVDA II-C TRANSMISSION LIMITED
(100% wholly owned subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited)
B-9, QUTAB INSTITUTIONAL AREA, KATWARIA SARAI,
NEW DELHI-110 016

NOTICE
(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 18 OF THE ELECTRICITY ACT, 2003)

1. **POWERGRID KHAVDA II-C TRANSMISSION LIMITED**, having its Registered Office at B-9, QUTAB INSTITUTIONAL AREA, KATWARIA SARAI, NEW DELHI-110016, which is incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013, has made an application before the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, New Delhi under subsection (2) of Section 18 of the Electricity Act, 2003 for grant of transmission licence in respect of the transmission lines, sub-stations and other assets, the details of which are given:
a. Details of existing license –CERC order 58/TL/2024 dated 03-05-2024, 168/TL/2024 dated 17-09-2024, 172/TL/2024 dated 30-09-2024
b. Details of transmission element to be added or deleted

Sl. No.	Name of the line/Sub-station / transmission element (location)	Line Length/ Capacity	Estimated Completion Cost	Schedule COD (in case of addition)	Remarks
1	Gadag -II 400/220 kV PS	• 220 kV Bus Sectionalizer- 2 sets • 220 kV Bus Coupler (BC) Bay–02 nos. • 220 kV Transfer Bus Coupler (TBC) Bay–02 nos.	Rs 30.59 Crs	17.08.2027 i.e. 18 months from CTUIL OM	To be implemented under Regulated Tariff Mechanism

2. Complete application and other documents filed before the Commission are available on the web site of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited **www.powergrid.in/subsidiaries** for access by any person. The application can also be inspected at the office of the Company at C/o ED (Commercial & RC), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Floor-2, IRCON International Tower, Tower 1, Plot No. 16, Institutional Area, Sector 32, Gurugram, Haryana 122003 with Smt. Shakuntala Sahu, Project In-charge, POWERGRID Khavda II-C Transmission Limited or Office of the Commission in accordance with the procedure specified by the Commission.
3. Objections or suggestions, if any, be filed before the Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, 6th, 7th & 8th Floors, Tower B, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi- 110029, with a copy of the objection(s)/suggestion(s) to the applicant or its authorized agent, within 15 days of the publication of the notice in the newspaper.

Place: Gadag
Date: 02.06.2026

Project In-charge,
POWERGRID Khavda II-C Transmission Limited

PG/CC/Notice22 (SPV)/Advt-26/26-27 Alakananda

DH
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50th ANNIVERSARY

Smt. PUSHPA PARAMESH
Vice President Akkamahadevi Samaja, Kumara Park
D/o.Late Shivashankaraiah & Sarvamanagala
Wife of: **K.S.Paramesh** Died on 2-6-1976
From Mrs.Muktha Prakash, Kiran
Mrs.Sumathi Prasad, Rashmi, Deepak,
Jayanna, Kashanna, Shylanna,
Jaganna, Umesh (S.G.S. Brothers)
Rajashekar (Brother in law)
Shantha, Shyamala, Leela, Guna,
Rathna, Amrutha (Sister-in-laws)
Mala, Vijaya (Sisters)
Inserted by: **DR. K.P.R. PRAMOD**
,x, Medical Superintendent
KIDWAI CANCER HOSPITAL
Director- Bengaluru Cancer Centre

SAD DEMISE

SMT. D. GOWRAMMA
Wife of P. Narasimhaiah
(Excise Contractor)
Daughter of Yellamma Dasappa,
(Excise Contractor)
Partner: H.Dasappa & Sons Pvt.Ltd
M/s Ramkrishna Lodge & Hotels
Born: 21-04-1942 | Died: 01-06-2026
We regret to inform that she has left us to heavenly abode on 01-06-2026. Cremation at Appaji Gowramma Farms, Harohalli Bengaluru. Kanakapura National Highway-209 on 02-06-2026 @ 1:30 pm. We pray God to rest her soul in peace.
Om Shanthi
Deeply mourned by:
Sons, Daughters, Family Members, Relatives & Friends

WORTHY WAITING GAME

Constant communication with Delhi was Shivakumar's key munition

Public restraint in tussle with Siddaramaiah, loyalty to Gandhis paid off

A file photo of D K Shivakumar with Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and party president Mallikarjun Kharge, during a programme to mark the centenary of Mahatma Gandhi presiding over the Congress session in Belagavi in 2024. The CM designate has been a staunch loyalist of the Gandhi family and troubleshooter for the party in times of crises.

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The transition of power in Karnataka Congress was the culmination of relentless efforts by KPCC president D K Shivakumar, who eventually outmanoeuvred veteran leader Siddaramaiah and persuaded the party high command to direct the chief minister to step down.

Over the past year, with backing from his brother D K Suresh, Shivakumar strengthened his position by countering Siddaramaiah's camp and strengthening ties with the Congress high command in Delhi, ultimately securing leadership change.

The power struggle became public ahead of the Congress plenary session in Ahmedabad in April 2025. Siddaramaiah's camp pushed the party's 'one man, one post' principle, demanding that Shivakumar relinquish the KPCC president post since he was also deputy chief minister.

Both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar subsequently made multiple trips to Delhi to present their cases.

While Siddaramaiah's side pressed for organisational changes and replacing the state Congress president, Shivakumar worked to keep the leadership transition issue alive and dodged attempts to remove him as state unit president.

The contest intensified around July 2025 amid talks of a Cabinet reshuffle. Shivakumar successfully persuaded the high command against approving a major ministerial overhaul, which his camp saw as an attempt to consolidate Siddaramaiah's position.

After the Congress government completed two-and-a-half years on November 20, 2025, speculation over leadership change grew stronger.

The high command urged both sides to project unity through public posturing like joint breakfast meetings, to ease friction. Discussions planned in Delhi in December 2025 were delayed by a special legislature session called by the government on the Centre's decision to replace MGNREGA with VB-G RAM G Act. Shivakumar's camp saw this as a tactic by Siddaramaiah to avoid leadership change talks in the national capital.

Following advice from the central leadership, Shivakumar consulted key state leaders — including those close to Siddaramaiah like Satish Jarkiholi, M B Patil, and Zameer Ahmed Khan — as well as legislators from various regions and communities to build a consensus for his CM dream.

Throughout the power tussle, Shivakumar projected loyalty and restraint by avoiding direct confrontation, despite public criticism from Siddaramaiah's camp over his ambition to become CM. However, Suresh kept raising the issue of the 'promised leadership change'.

Shivakumar's strong rapport with the high command was built over many years through dedicated organisational work and crisis management, most notably in 2017 when he successfully safeguarded 42 Gujarat Congress MLAs in Bengaluru to prevent cross-voting during the Rajya Sabha elections, helping senior leader Ahmed Patel win.

Shivakumar's properties were raided by the IT and ED. On September 3, 2019, he was arrested and spent 50 days in Delhi's Tihar jail. During this period, Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra visited him, further cementing his clout with the Gandhi family.

In contrast, while Siddaramaiah enjoyed the confidence of Rahul Gandhi and maintained contact with senior leaders like K C Venugopal, he was seen as less deeply integrated into the central power structure in Delhi.

Law students should be catalysts of change

(Left to right) Prof (Dr) Uma Mahesh Satyanarayan, M R Anandaram, K S Bharath Kumar, Justice Vibhu Bakhru, Justice Vikram Nath, Sanjeev Pandey, H Shashidhara Shetty, Justice Anu Sivaraman and Prof (Dr) C Basavaraju at the inauguration of the event.

The third zonal workshop, themed 'From Classroom to Courtroom: Law Students as Catalysts for Social Justice', was held at the Ramaiah College of Law (Autonomous). Organised by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA) and Karnataka State Law University (KSLU), this event brought together judges from the Supreme Court and High Court, prominent legal experts, and law students from across the state.

DH Ramaiah College of Law

Inaugurating the event, Justice Vikram Nath, Judge of the Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, NALSA, stated it is the primary duty of every future lawyer to ensure legal awareness reaches the most marginalised and deprived sections of society. Justice Vibhu Bakhru, Chief Justice of Karnataka and Patron-in-Chief, KSLSA, noted that this initiative transcends traditional academic boundaries and will turn access to justice into a tangible right for the common man. Justice Anu Sivaraman, Judge of the High Court of Karnataka and Executive Chairperson, KSLSA, called on students to become catalysts of social change by simplifying complex legal frameworks for ordinary citizens.

At the event, the dignitaries released four major publications including a book that highlights the progress of legal education and social justice.

Prof (Dr) Uma Mahesh Satyanarayan, Principal, Ramaiah College of Law (Autonomous), said that having renowned judges from the Supreme Court of India and the High Court of Karnataka on a single platform was a rare and invaluable opportunity for students to understand the deep impact of law in promoting social justice.

Several dignitaries including M R Anandaram, Director, Ramaiah College of Law (Autonomous); Sanjeev Pandey, Member Secretary, NALSA, New Delhi; K S Bharath Kumar, Registrar General, High Court of Karnataka; Prof (Dr) C Basavaraju, Vice Chancellor, KSLU, Hubballi; and H Shashidhara Shetty, Member Secretary, KSLSA attended the event. The workshop concluded with a firm resolve to bring about long-term, positive changes in society through clinical legal education and student-driven legal aid clinics.

Curated by DH Brandspot

'Siddu left behind a broken lorry for DKS to drive'

BENGALURU, DHNS: Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka on Monday launched a sharp attack on the Congress over the change of guard in Karnataka, saying Siddaramaiah had quietly walked away, leaving behind a 'broken-down' lorry for his successor Shivakumar to drive.

"The Congress government is like an old lorry — only driver has changed, not vehicle. This broken vehicle cannot be repaired," Ashoka told a press meet.

He said Siddaramaiah had run the government on borrowed money for 3 years. Ashoka said, "The burden of pending dues and debt now falls on Shivakumar. He will impose more taxes on people".

"While the state budget size is Rs 4 lakh crore, debt stands at Rs 7.64 lakh crore, and this year's deficit is Rs 94,428 crore. There is no money left for development".

He contrasted this with BJP tenure, saying "Rs 84,000 crore was being spent on development, but after 'unscientific guarantees' that amount has reduced.

On the political fallout, he said Siddaramaiah "believed he would not be replaced as he was the only backward classes CM in the country and sole Ahinda leader. But he had to resign on Rahul Gandhi's "insistence".

Zameer in soup as 'sabotage' audio clip goes viral

'Muslims should vote for SDPI', he's heard telling Cong leader

DAVANGERE, DHNS

An audio clip of a reported conversation between then minister Zameer Ahmed Khan and then vice president of KPCC minority cell Mohammad Siraj, who was later expelled from the party, during the bypoll to Davangere South Assembly constituency, has gone viral on social media.

This comes at a time when discussions are on for the formation of a new Cabinet under Shivakumar.

The 3-minute, 50-second audio clip of the conversation in Urdu and Kannada between the two dated April 9, the day of the by-election, was shared on the 'X' account of 'Kannada Cockroach' at 3 am on Monday.

"I visited many booths. The cooker (SDPI symbol) is everywhere, the diamond (independent candidate's symbol) not so much. Some people from the Congress are distributing money. They are saying that people know how to vote by rejecting money. I have given Rs 1.5 lakh to Sadiq brother. I have instructed him to ensure that votes go to SDPI," Siraj is heard saying in the audio.

In response, Zameer is heard telling Siraj, "Don't force anyone to come out of the house to vote. Muslims are getting used to vote for Congress. If people start coming out of the house, it will not benefit us. Even those who come out of the house should vote for SDPI or an independent candidate".

Reacting to the audio clip, Siraj said, "Zameer did not speak to me in that manner. I have nothing to do with the audio. It was heavily edited and manipulated using technology. This is far from truth".

He said, "There was a conspiracy against us during by-election. There was an attempt to discredit Muslim leaders. This continued even after my expulsion from the party. This audio has been deliberately timed to create problems for Zameer at the time of Cabinet reshuffle," he told reporters on Monday. He admitted that he knows Srinivas Dasakariappa, who wss the BJP candidate in the byelection.

"But I have not spoken to him since he became a candidate. On polling day, after casting my vote, I came home and slept. I did not speak to anyone. I need to know where the audio came from. I will take legal advice and proceed further," he said.

'Audio fake, it's a conspiracy'

Zameer said that the audio was fake and it was edited heavily using AI technology.

He charged that this was a political conspiracy and a complaint would be filed with the cyber police station seeking action against those who made this and posted it on social media.

The outgoing minister said anyone could examine the authenticity of the audio clip. "I did not speak those words. All this has been made up to create confusion. This is the act of miscreants, no one should believe it".

Hectic parleys underway within SC community for min berths

SUJAY B M
BENGALURU, DHNS

While a few senior Scheduled Caste leaders are virtually guaranteed a berth in the upcoming D K Shivakumar-led Cabinet, intense manoeuvring and lobbying are underway for the remaining slots.

In the previous Siddaramaiah-led Cabinet, there were 6 SC ministers - G Parameshwara, Priyank Kharge, Dr H C Mahadevappa (SC Right) K H Muniyappa, R B Timmapur (SC Left) and Shivaraj Tangadagi (Bhovi).

Sources in the Congress explained that the party would need to carefully calibrate candidates to suit both caste and regional equations.

Parameshwara and Priyank are widely expected to continue, and it's also likely that either Muniyappa or his daughter Roopakala Shashidhar may get another berth.

Parameshwara, a former KPCC president, has twice served as the home minister, and was even the DCM in the H D Kumaraswamy-led Cabinet during 2018-19.

Priyank served as both the IT/BT and RDPR minister from 2023-26 in the Siddaramaiah 2.0 Cabinet, and is known as a firebrand with secular credentials.

It's speculated that both Parameshwara and Priyank may be amongst the select list of senior ministers to be sworn-in to the Cabinet alongside D K Shivakumar on June 03.

Speculation is rife that the SC community may get one of the potential 2-3 deputy chief minister berths. It was believed that either Parameshwara or Priyank may be chosen as one of the DCMs. However, AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge has reportedly favoured Parameshwara to be the DCM instead of his son Priyank.

Even though the SC (Left)/Madiga community is the most numerous of all SC groups in Karnataka (34.21 lakh, excluding Paraya and Moger communities), the SC (Right)/Holeya community (32.56 lakh including the aforementioned two communities) has been traditionally loyal to the Congress and most of its senior SC leaders are from the SC (Right) community itself.

While the SC (Right) community is expected to retain its share of three ministers, it's being speculated that Mahadevappa - a Siddaramaiah loyalist and the social welfare minister in the outgoing government - may be replaced by Malavalli MLA P M Narendraswamy (also from SC Right).

Both Mahadevappa (T Narasipura) and Narendraswamy (Malavalli) are from the Old Mysuru region. Anekal MLA B Shivanna and Pulakeshinagar MLA A C Sreenivas are also said to have sought ministerial berths.

It's also being speculated that Mayakonda MLA Basavanthappa (SC Left) and Deputy Speaker Rudrappa Lamani (Lambani) may get a chance. MLC Sudham Das (SC Left) is also said to be an aspirant.

ST aspirants

In the Scheduled Tribe community, Satish Jarkiholi - widely expected to be a frontrunner to be the KPCC president - is also said to have sought a ministerial berth. Molakalmuru MLA N Y Gopalakrishna and Challakere MLA T Raghumurthy are also said to be aspirants.

CCU cracks down on betting websites

BENGALURU, DHNS: In one of the largest operations, the Karnataka Cyber Command Unit (CCU), in coordination with the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C), targeted a massive network of betting websites, mobile applications, and about 8,750 fraudulent betting URLs.

Specialized cyber teams conducted coordinated online investigation identifying organized groups running illegal cricket betting platforms after receiving credible intelligence. "These platforms were found to be operating through mirror domains, sub domains, and cloned URLs," the CCU said.

A case has been registered and investigations launched. According to the CCU, thousands of citizens have suffered heavy financial losses, data compromises, mental harassment, and debt driven distress due to these illegal betting networks.

K'taka Cong leaders meet high command for Cabinet talks

Cabinet, From Page 1

Kharge is likely to chair a key meeting on Tuesday morning with Venugopal, Surjewala, Siddaramaiah, and Shivakumar to finalise the composition of the cabinet.

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, is expected to join the meeting on Tuesday.

As per the current plan, around 10 to 12 ministers will be inducted in the first phase. The list is expected to include a mix of senior leaders and young faces.

A meeting originally scheduled for Monday evening with Kharge was postponed as Venugopal and Rahul Gandhi arrived in the national capital late at night. Both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar reached Delhi on Monday afternoon.

A large number of ministerial aspirants, including former ministers, MLAs, and MLCs, have camped in Delhi to lobby with the high command for a place in the cabinet.

3-year wait for official bungalow miffs LoP Ashoka

PRATHIMA NANDAKUMAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

A three-year delay in allotment of an official residence to Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in Legislative Assembly R Ashoka has highlighted the shortage of official bungalows for ministers and political dignitaries in Bengaluru.

Ashoka has written six letters over the last three years seeking allotment of any one among three preferred residences — No 1 Kumarakrupa East, Race View Cottages No 1 and No 2. However, Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR - Protocol) has not been able to accommodate the request as all three bungalows are occupied by ministers.

Kumarakrupa East No 1 is occupied by Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, while Race View Cottage No 1 and No 2 are occupied by Industries Minister M B Patil and Energy Minister K J George.

Besides, "Krishna" on Kumarakrupa Road, is the CM's home office. The state government currently has 27 official bungalows, including "Cauvery", the chief minister's official residence, Kumarakrupa units, Race View Cottages, Seven Ministers' Quarters, Crescent Road residences, Jayamahal, Sadashivanagar and KHB quarters.

The bungalow allotment is at the discretion of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. The demand exceeds the number of bungalows available.

Apart from 17 ministers, official residences are occupied by the Lokayukta, Upa Lokayukta, Legislative Assembly Speaker, Legislative Council Chairman, Principal Secretary G S Sangreshi, vice-president of the State Guarantee Implementation Authority S R Mehroz Khan, former political secretary to the chief minister Naseer Ahmed and Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy.

R ASHOKA
Leader of the Opposition in Legislative Assembly

"When Siddaramaiah was the LoP, I had vacated my quarters to accommodate his request.

The shortage has forced the government to rent private houses for ministers. The PWD assess th private property and fixes the rent.

The DPAR (Protocol) has rented a bungalow in Sadashivanagar for Animal Husbandry Minister S S Mallikarjun at Rs 3.38 lakh per month and Urban Development Minister B S Suresh has been accommodated in a rented bungalow in HSR Layout at Rs 2.5 lakh per month, by paying a deposit of Rs 25 lakh each. While Medical Education Minister Dr Sharan Prakash Patil is staying in a rented bungalow in Vasantnagar at Rs 2.20 lakh per month. The occupants of official quarters pay a HRA of Rs 2.5 lakh per month.

Ashoka was earlier allotted No 6 bungalow in Seven Ministers' Quarters on Sankey Road, but he declined to move there. The bungalow was later realloted to Chalavadi Narayanaswamy.

"When Siddaramaiah was the LOP I had vacated my quarters to accommodate his request," reminded Ashoka.

Among political circles, Bungalow No 1 at Kumarakrupa East is considered a preferred residence. Siddaramaiah had occupied the bungalow as the LOP and was elevated to the CM's post.

DH Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICE

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Karnataka State Centre,
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Bangalore-560027,
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Fax: 080-22223384, Email:
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Place: Bangalore
Date: 01-06-2026 Sd/-
(S.R.Shiva Shankar)
Hon. Gen. Secretary

PERSONAL

Change of Name

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **AKKAMAHDEVI PATIL,** residing at No 41206, 20th Floor, Prestige Jandal City Tower-1 Anchepalya, Nagasandra Post, Bengaluru-560073, have changed my name to **AKKAMAHADEVI BHEEMANAGOUDA PATIL** vide affidavit dated 01/06/2026 before Notary Gangaraju B.N., Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Madhu Sudhan Rao J R,** R/at # 1392, Sai Baba Temple Road, Opp. Rajamurali Theatre, Kodigehalli, Bengaluru- 560092, have changed my minor son's name from **M CHARVIK RAO JADHAV** to **CHARVIK RAO J M** vide affidavit dated 01.06.2026 before notary Uday Kumar K, Bengaluru. Henceforth he shall be called as **CHARVIK RAO J M** only.

I, ANNAPURNESHWARI K S, W/o Sujieth K S, aged about 24 years, residing at No. 2768, Sri Aswath Nivasa, Santhe Maidhan, Kolar Main Road, Near ICICI Bank, Bangarpet 563114, hereby declare that I have changed my name from ANNAPURNESHWARI B J (ANNAPURNESHWARI BYRAPURA JUTUR) TO ANNAPURNESHWARI K S (ANNAPURNESHWARI KESARLA SUJIETH) after marriage on my Aadhaar card, PAN Card and Voter Id my name is mentioned as ANNAPURNESHWARI K S. Both the names refer to one and the same person, i.e., myself vide affidavit dated 30.05.2026 before Notary V.B Prasad Bangarpet. Hence I shall be called as ANNAPURNESHWARI K S. for all purpose.

Lost

DOCUMENT LOST
I, **Anjanappa S M,** residing at No. 124, A Block, Hebbal, Bengaluru, have lost my **Original Sale agreement Document No./ Identification: Sale of Survey number - 182, Shivanapur Village.** While in transit. If found please contact: **9740017663**

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Now, CEC to inspect site of Sharavathi power project

Greens worried as govt seeks reports from multiple panels

BENGALURU, DHNS

At a time when a high-level committee report recommended the rejection of the Pumped Storage Project (PSP) in the Sharavathi valley of the Western Ghats, the arrival of the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) to inspect the proposed project has led to fresh round of speculation.

CEC member Sunil B Limaye, a retired IFS officer who is on a visit to Karnataka to report on various issues related to wildlife conservation and the new project, is set to visit Shivamogga and Chikkamagaluru in the next two days to assess the situation related to Sharavathi valley project as well as rationalisation of the Shettihalli wildlife sanctuary.

The 2,000-MW project is proposed on 133.81 acres of forest spread over Shivamogga and Uttara Kannada districts.

The area supports a majority of the population of the endangered Lion Tailed Macaques. The report by the high-level committee appointed by the standing committee of the National Board of Wildlife (SC-NBWL) has deemed the project destructive.

The committee pointed to "habitat fragmentation, disturbance to wildlife, cumulative stress on forest and riverine ecosystems" as consequences of the work.

"The CEC has taken up the Sharavathi case suo motu so that we are ready to assist the court when required," Limaye told *DH*.

Wildlife conservationist Veeresh G expressed concern over the government seeking reports from multiple committees. "The NBWL committee report is unambiguous in its stance that the Sharavathi valley can't have a power project. The CEC, originally constituted by the Supreme Court, has undergone a structural transformation after the Union government set up a permanent committee. We hope the CEC report will not cause confusion," he said.

The CEC is also expected to look into the row over the proposal of the eco sensitive zone (ESZ) for Bhadra Tiger Reserve (BTR). The BTR has a total area of 599.79 sq km.

The National Tiger Conservation Authority had raised concerns over the exclusion of portions of buffer zone from the proposed ESZ.

In the case of Shettihalli sanctuary, the state government has been trying to "rationalise" its boundary, effectively reducing the sanctuary's area from 696 sq km to 395.6 sq km

Veeresh said while there were practical reasons for reducing the BTR ESZ to ensure that life and livelihood of villagers is not disrupted, officials should ensure that the measure will not lead to mushrooming of resorts.

'Erect guard stones'

Limaye, who inspected the Mysuru-Mananthavady Road following allegations of illegal widening, advised officials to instal guard stones. Limaye said no widening was allowed inside a tiger reserve and asked the highway authorities to remove any additional structures, including widened shoulders, that are constructed.

"Forest officials were told to ensure that there is no change in the original width of the road," sources said.

Ramaiah Group and University at Albany launch RISM

(Left to right) Dr N D Gangadhar, Dr B N Raghunandan, Dr M R Jayaram, Gurucharan Gollakeri and J D Desai at the press conference announcing the launch of RISM.

The just-launched Ramaiah Institute of Science and Management, a next-generation deemed university, will offer STEM and management courses designed to prepare students to meet the needs of global enterprises

The Ramaiah Group has partnered with the University at Albany, State University of New York, a leading public research university, to establish the Ramaiah Institute of Science and Management (RISM) - India's first distinct greenfield deemed to be university in Bengaluru. Conceived as a next generation STEM and management university, RISM will offer a globally benchmarked, industry embedded engineering curriculum that prioritises resilience and translational research.

Announcing the launch of RISM, Dr M R Jayaram, Chairman and Trustee, Gokula Education Foundation (Medical), said, "India needs higher education institutions that prepare students for global knowledge environments rather than rely solely on traditional teaching models. RISM will focus on STEM and management disciplines, offering rigorous foundational science programmes designed to develop transferable technology skills. The institute will emphasise industry-embedded capstone projects that follow the principle 'doing is learning', and will promote translational research that encourages students to apply knowledge for societal benefit". Speaking on the vision set for RISM, he said, "Our vision is to make RISM a truly distinct learning institution that delivers globally-benchmarked curriculum and resources. We will enable students to acquire critical thinking and problem-solving skills that are transferable across technology, science and management domains, and meet the needs of modern enterprises".

"RISM will emerge as a unique deemed university in the country, equipped with all modern facilities. It is envisioned as a next-generation university for STEM and Management education", said Gurucharan Gollakeri, Executive Director and Chief Strategy Officer, Gokula Education Foundation (Medical).

RISM's Chairman Dr B N Raghunandan, Dean – Governing Body Dr N D Gangadhar and Registrar J D Desai also attended the launch event.

Meeting needs of enterprises

A distinctive mix of internation- ally-reputed faculty, on campus industry mentors and a three year capstone experience beginning in the second year will prepare graduates to meet and exceed the technology and enterprise needs of India over the next decade.

Building on more than six decades of excellence in education, research and healthcare, the Ramaiah Group will extend its legacy through RISM, reimagining higher education with a global-first, industry-aligned model. RISM will offer undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes across engineering, business and science, with initial courses including B.Tech in Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence, Aerospace Engineering and Electrical Sciences, alongside BBA (Technology Management) and MBA programmes. Its academic model is anchored in co-created curricula developed with industry and academic partners, and integrates interdisciplinary learning, industry-sponsored centres of excellence, internships, live projects and multi-year capstone assignments to equip students with practical, real-world capabilities.

Designed to build the future

This theme is embedded across RISM's curriculum and culture. Programmes follow an integrated business- and management-led design that keeps learning applied and outcome-driven from Day One. Every course includes real industry exposure, and students work with 'mentor professors' (senior industry leaders appointed as formal faculty members) - a first of its kind model.

Translational research underpins the academic framework, dictating curriculum design and driving measurable societal impact. Together, these elements create an ecosystem where industry context, academic rigour and research converge to build the future.

RISM's schools and programmes

The School of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence will equip students to operate at the forefront of technological change, building strong foundations in programming, algorithms and data, with applied exposure to machine learning, automation and human-robot interaction.

The School of Aerospace Engineering will offer a rigorous pathway across aeronautical and astronautical domains, covering flight systems, spacecraft design, satellite technologies and space exploration.

The School of Business will focus on developing analytical, managerial and strategic capabilities for modern enterprises, with industry-sponsored learning centres on campus enabling early, hands-on engagement with real-world business challenges.

What differentiates RISM is how these disciplines are brought together within a globally-connected, industry-embedded learning ecosystem, anchored in its knowledge partnership with University at Albany. Through year-abroad opportunities, immersive learning formats and corporate-sponsored centres of excellence, students move beyond siloed education to continuously applying cross-disciplinary thinking in real-world contexts.

Campus near industrial hubs

The university's main residential campus is being developed in Bengaluru's Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) near Devanahalli, placing it in proximity to key industrial and innovation hubs such as the Aerospace Park, Special Economic Zone, Global Financial District and the upcoming Foxconn facility. This location is expected to foster strong industry-academia collaboration, particularly across STEM disciplines. RISM will commence academic operations from a transit campus in Yelahanka in August 2026, with the main campus expected to be fully operational by September 2028.

All programmes at RISM will follow a fully residential model designed to enable holistic student development beyond the classroom, including structured sports, cultural engagement, wellness initiatives, leadership development and entrepreneurship support, creating a well-rounded and immersive learning environment.

Curated by DH Brandspot

EC notifies RS, Council polls; voting on Jun 18

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Election Commission of India on Monday notified biennial elections to four Rajya Sabha seats from Karnataka and seven seats of the Legislative Council, setting off intense political activity in the ruling Congress and BJP over ticket allocation. Polling and counting for both elections will be held on June 18.

The Rajya Sabha elections were necessitated as the terms of four members - former prime minister H D Deve Gowda, leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge and BJP members Iranna Kadadi and K Narayana end on June 25.

With 135 members (reduced from 137 following the death of D Sudhakar and disqualification of Vinay Kulkarni) in the currently 222-member Assembly, the ruling Congress is comfortably placed to win three of the four Rajya Sabha seats, while BJP is expected to pick one.

The Congress' candidate selection remains undecided amid the ongoing process for the formation of a new government. Party sources said Mallikarjun Kharge (also the AICC president) is likely to retain his seat.

Of the remaining two Rajya Sabha seats, one could go to an OBC leader. The high command is weighing in on Pawan Khera, Supriya Shrinate, Y S Sharmila and B V Srinivas for the third seat.

State leaders who are in the race include B K Hariprasad, D K Suresh, Nagaraj Yadav, V S Ugrappa, Anjali Nimbalkar and Basavaraju A P.

In the BJP, former MP Sumalatha Ambareesh, Nirmal Kumar Surana, Pramod Madhwaraj and N Mahesh are frontrunners for the lone seat. The central leadership is also exploring the possibility of nominating Deve Gowda from a BJP-ruled state like Maharashtra or Gujarat, though the JD(S) patriarch is understood to be keen on re-entering the Upper House from Karnataka itself.

The Congress is hoping to strengthen its tally in the 75-member Legislative Council, where it currently has 37 members, BJP 29 and JD(S) 7, besides one Independent and the chairman.

The BJP is considering caste and gender representation, while finalising its nominees. It has shortlisted state mahila morcha president Manjula, Malavika Avinash, Geetha Vivekananda, Shruthi, Raghu Kautilya, Lingaraj Patil and Sharanu Tallikere.

The last date for filing nominations is June 8, while scrutiny of nomination papers will be conducted on June 9. Candidates can withdraw their candidature until June 11. Voting will be held from 9 am to 4 pm on June 18, and the counting of votes will commence at 5 pm on the same day. With a total strength of 75 members in the Council, the Congress is the single largest party with 37 members, followed by the BJP with 29 members. The JD(S) has seven members, while there is one Independent member. The Chairman occupies the remaining seat.

A tree branch broken by heavy rain and strong winds lies near Indavara on the Mallandur Road in Chikkamagaluru.

Shivamogga records copious pre-monsoon rainfall

BENGALURU, DHNS: Pre-monsoon showers, accompanied by thunder and lightning, lashed Malnad districts - Shivamogga, Chikkamagaluru and Kodagu - on Monday.

Skies opened up in Shivamogga city in the evening and it continued to pour well into the night. The showers brought down temperatures giving some relief from scorching heat.

Hosanagar, Sagar and Thirthahalli taluks also received thundershowers, coupled with gusty winds. Traffic on Shivamogga-Sagar road (NH 69) was disrupted after a massive tree came crashing on the road near Yedehalli petrol pump. Vehicles plying to Shivamogga from Sagar travelled via Ripponpet-Ayanur as the downpour created hurdles in clearing the tree. The road was restored for traffic late Monday night.

Several parts of Kodagu, including Madikeri, Somwarpet and Napoklu, witnessed heightened thunder activity on Monday evening. The hilly district, however, didn't receive rains. Holalkere taluk in Chitradurga district saw a sharp spell of showers on Monday. The showers turned the Vishwanathanahalli gram panchayat office premises at Aavinahatti into a "lake".

Chikkamagaluru and parts of the district saw a moderate spell of rain on Monday.

State constitutes 16-member task force to further quantum mission

BENGALURU, DHNS

The state government has constituted a 16-member Quantum Task Force to steer forward the Karnataka Quantum Mission.

The mission aims to push Karnataka as a national hub for quantum technology, research, and innovation, and oversee the implementation of the Karnataka Quantum Roadmap, unveiled early this year at the Quantum India Bengaluru Summit.

Speaking to *DH*, Minister for Minor Irrigation and Science and Technology N S Boseraju said, "The task force will focus on bringing together both national and international bases to carry forward Karnataka's Quantum Roadmap. The task force will also work towards Quantum City in Hesaraghatta. The planning process has begun, and tenders are expected to be called in a month's time."

The construction of Quantum City is expected to be completed by 2028. It will be located within 6.23 acres of land near Hesaraghatta. The project is envisioned as a global hub that will house pilot fabrication lines, common computing infrastructure and cutting-edge research labs. It will also provide dedicated workspaces for startups and advanced incubation facilities to nurture the next generation of deep-tech entrepreneurs.

Who will chair the committee?

As per an official notification from the Department of Electronics, Information Technology, Biotechnology and Science & Technology, the committee will be chaired by Professor Arindam Ghosh, JRD Tata Chair Professor and JC Bose National Fellow at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc). Senior government officials, researchers and industry representatives have been included in the panel.

Among the members are experts from institutions such as IISc, the Raman Research Institute, the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences (ICTS), C-CAMP and the Quantum Research Park. Representatives from quantum technology firms and startups have also been inducted.

The task force will provide policy guidance, recommend strategies for research and innovation, support startup development and facilitate industrial adoption of quantum technologies.

One of its key responsibilities will be to guide the development of major quantum infrastructure projects proposed by the state, including the planned Quantum City at Hesaraghatta. The project has been envisaged as a dedicated ecosystem for quantum computing, communication, sensing and related deep-technology research.

The move comes amid growing global interest in quantum technologies, which are expected to play a significant role in areas such as advanced computing, cybersecurity, communications and scientific research.

India has also stepped up investments in the sector through the National Quantum Mission announced by the Union government.

'Upset' TN former BJP chief Annamalai to quit party today

Annamalai, From Page 1

Another source said Annamalai may not rush into launching his own political party immediately as he is likely to discuss the strategy to be adopted with his supporters.

"He will take a few weeks off to decide on the path to be taken. He will explain the reasons for his decision before the people and talk about his vision for Tamil Nadu," the second source added.

The first source said Annamalai's decision should be viewed from the prism of Tamil Nadu's changing political landscape that has witnessed the stupendous performance of TVK in the April 23 Assembly elections.

"Politics in TN is changing completely, and one has to adapt to the emerging scenarios. And TVK's rise shows that only native parties can grow in Tamil Nadu and will have acceptance. The space for national parties are shrinking, and it would be extremely difficult to talk the local language in a party like the BJP," the source said.

He also believes that youngsters want politicians who speak their language and fight for their aspirations.

Annamalai has kept a low-profile since stepping down as the TN BJP chief to facilitate the party's alliance with the AIADMK – the former IPS officer has had several run-ins with Edappadi K Palaniswami, and they don't share a good rapport. AIADMK may have denied Singanallur for it did not want Annamalai to contest and emerge as challenger to the party in the region.

Murders over land dispute: Vijayapura police arrest 12

VIJAYAPURA, DHNS

The Vijayapura district police on Monday arrested 12 people in connection with the gruesome murders of six people, including five of a family from Chadchan, over a land dispute.

Five members of a family and another man were hacked to death by a group of 15 to 20 members when the victims were preparing the disputed land for cultivation at Govindapur village in Chadchan taluk on Friday. The incident had sent shockwaves across the state.

The police on Monday arrested: Kallanagouda Patil (65) Mahasidda Biradar (44), Mahesh Biradar (22), Raju Ugar (20), Yellappa Arakeri (25), Layappa Biradar (65), Subhash Biradar (21), Raosaheb Biradar (20), Gajananand Biradar (20), Sanju Arakeri (31), all natives of Govindapur, and Rajkumar Koli (28) and Hanumanth Koli (18) from Maharashtra. The accused were produced before an Indi court and sent to jail, Superintendent of Police Laxman Nimbargi told reporters.

They hacked Dundappa Revanasiddappa Nirale (65), his brothers Shivaputra (58) and Chandrakant alias Chandu (55), Shivaputra's sons Rahul (25) and Samarth (23), and Shabbir Attar (45). Aravind Katagi (72) and JCB driver Sandeep Mane (23) suffered injuries in the incident.

The accused attacked the members of Nirale family for buying 25 acres of land belonging to Shashikant Teli, who is serving a jail term in a murder case.

The Chadchan police had registered an FIR following a complaint lodged by Chaitanya Kumar Nirale, a town panchayat member. The complainant had alleged that a long-standing dispute over an agricultural land that was purchased by his family led to murders.

The accused fled the spot following the murders. The district police had formed a team to trace them.

Amid West Asia turmoil, K'taka turns to US, UK mango markets

Mango, From Page 1

"Our Mallika, Kesar and Badami varieties have great potential. Once they taste our authentic Alphonso or Kesar, they will love it," he added.

Bad weather has caused heavy losses for local growers with production coming down to 10-12 lakh tonnes this year from last year's 12-14 lakh tonnes. The government is currently working to get emergency relief funds to help affected farmers.

To reduce losses, the Mango Corporation is setting up free, government-run stalls so farmers can sell directly to customers without paying middlemen. This will mainly help farmers in Kolar and Chikkaballapur, the two districts that grow nearly 60% of Karnataka's mangoes.

Growing farms

Even with this year's challenges, mango farming in Karnataka is expanding. Ibrahim Maigur, director of the Department of Horticulture, said the state's total mango farming area grew from 1,39,000 hectares last year to 1,45,000 hectares this year.

"This growth is visible in Koppal, where Kesar mango farming grew from 1,500 hectares to 2,500 hectares," Maigur said. He added that Kolar and Ramanagara are also seeing more farms.

To make exports easier, T R Vedhamurthy, managing director of the Corporation, said that facilities have been upgraded. The Madikere centre in Chikkaballapur has successfully processed 85 tonnes of mangoes for export and is training women's self-help groups to make mango bars, pulp and pickles. A brand-new packing and processing centre has also opened this year at Byrapatna in Channapatna to help farmers from the Bengaluru South region sell their fruits globally.

Entry-level IT hiring dips...

Hiring dips, From Page 1

He added that mid-level professionals now account for nearly 65% of overall technology hiring demand.

However, the supply of specialised talent remains limited. As a result, hiring cycles for niche roles have stretched from around 75 days to more than 90 days, while salaries for emerging technology positions command premiums of 20-40%.

While average fresher salaries across sectors range between Rs 2.8 lakh and Rs 4.5 lakh per annum, entry-level roles in IT and fintech typically offer Rs 3 lakh to Rs 7 lakh.

Candidates with expertise in AI, data science and cloud technologies command a significant premium, with entry-level salaries in these domains ranging from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh per annum.

This has led to a more differentiated compensation structure, with high-demand digital skills driving stronger salary growth than conventional technology roles, Saproo said.

DECCAN HERALD
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A deadline for delayed justice

The Supreme Court's instructions to high courts to fast-track judgments and bail decisions are welcome, given the immense scale of pendency. Invoking the Court's powers under Article 142 of the Constitution, a bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi issued directions to the high courts: verdicts must be pronounced in all cases within three months of reserving the order. There have been multiple instances where judges, after concluding the hearing, failed to pronounce judgments for months and even years. Sometimes, the operative part of the judgment is pronounced, but the detailed reasoning is delayed. In both cases, the Court has established timelines and recourse to relief when the deadlines are not met. Its directions arose from a petition filed by four life convicts – decisions on their criminal appeals were reserved by the Jharkhand High Court in 2022, but were pronounced only three years later, in 2025.

Central to the new guidelines is the Court's statement that delay in pronouncing judgments is not just an administrative failure but a violation of the fundamental right to personal liberty. This principle also guided the Court in mandating that bail applications should be decided on the same day or, at the latest, within 24 hours of hearing. Denial and delay of bail have caused thousands of people to languish in India's jails. Apart from setting the timelines, the Court ordered that decisions regarding the granting of bail, suspension of sentences or acquittal of convicts should be conveyed to the prison authorities on the same day, so that the beneficiary of the ruling can be released during the day.

The Supreme Court's intervention for quicker judgments is welcome. Change must also be internal

It is upon the Supreme Court to ensure that the timelines are adhered to. While it has prescribed some relief measures in case of non-compliance, it must closely monitor the implementation of the guidelines. Notably, the guidelines the Court issued in *Anil Rai v. State of Bihar* (2001) on the same issue were not implemented. The Court should now extend its directives to the district courts, where the outcomes affect more people, while also initiating corrective measures to fix the delays in its own systems. On the day the apex court set the three-month timeline to be followed by the high courts, Justice Manoj Misra of the Court pronounced the verdict on a criminal appeal in a 42-year-old case, 15 months after reserving the judgment. These protracted proceedings call for urgent introspection because quick and efficient delivery of justice is integral to the public's confidence in the judiciary.

Hate speech: The case against another law

India's criminal justice system has never suffered from a scarcity of laws, but rather from a paralysis of performance. The Union Home Ministry's dismissal of the Karnataka Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2025, as "redundant" is a reminder of this reality. By pointing out that the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) already contains adequate provisions to deal with hate speech and communal incitement, the Centre has effectively ruled out the possibility of the Bill receiving presidential assent. The Bill, passed in the Belagavi session in December amidst fierce Opposition protests, sought to criminalise hate speech through a dedicated state statute. It defined hate speech broadly to include verbal, written, electronic, and symbolic expressions intended to create disharmony or enmity. It expanded protected categories to include gender and sexual orientation, and prescribed stringent punishments, including imprisonment of up to 10 years for repeat offenders. The legislation also empowered designated officers to order the removal of online content and authorised police and executive magistrates to take preventive action if they believed an offence was likely to occur.

While the intent to curb communal poison and protect vulnerable communities was legitimate, the Bill raised serious concerns. Critics argued that its definitions of "disharmony" and "ill-will" were vague and elastic, leaving enormous room for subjective interpretation and misuse. The preventive powers granted to law enforcement based merely on "reason to believe" appeared dangerously broad and vulnerable to political abuse. The provisions relating to online content removal also risked creating a parallel censorship framework outside the established processes. Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot flagged these constitutional concerns while reserving the Bill for presidential consideration. The Union Home Ministry reinforced those objections, pointing out that erecting overlapping state-level criminal structures on subjects already governed by central law would only breed legal confusion and constitutional friction.

Karnataka's well-intentioned legislation was also vulnerable to misuse. Enforcement is the real weak link

None of this diminishes the grave danger posed by hate speech. It remains one of the most corrosive threats to social harmony, capable of normalising discrimination and triggering violence. But the answer does not lie in the endless multiplication of laws. India already possesses sufficient legal provisions to prosecute offenders. The real failure lies in weak investigation, poor evidence-gathering, and delayed prosecution, resulting in abysmally low conviction rates. The lack of consequences emboldens those indulging in hate speech. The government must first close these administrative gaps that feed a culture where hatred is deployed as a weapon. Laws do not deter by virtue of novelty, but by the credible certainty of their enforcement.

TURBULENCE INCOMING

A perfect storm gathers over South Asia

Energy shocks, El Niño, and an AI-triggered job crisis threaten to test the region's economic resilience

PAUL ALAPAT

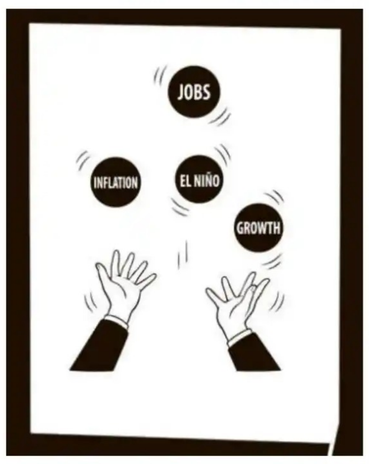
South Asian currencies and financial markets are flashing amber to red. The Indian, Sri Lankan and Nepali Rupees are among the worst-performing currencies in Asia, down 7% since January 2026. Currency market weakness is reinforced by falling equity and bond prices, all of which portend dark clouds gathering over the South Asian economic horizon. This commentary is not an attempt at forecasting but a reminder of what could go wrong. Extreme events do not mean extreme outcomes in markets; they only increase the likelihood of such outcomes.

An energy crisis with damage to GCC infrastructure: The latest spike in energy prices following the US/Israel-Iran war that started on February 28 has lifted Brent crude prices nearly 38% to $95 per barrel. While the current hike in oil prices may not last as long as the 1973-1981 or 2004-2014 episodes, and prices may start to normalise in a year or two, the fallout on South Asian countries could be more severe.

The Gulf's energy infrastructure and its brand have to be repaired: The rise in imported fuel and fertiliser prices is already fueling higher inflation across energy-import-dependent South Asia. Fuel, fertiliser, and food subsidies undermine fiscal balances, without the booming global demand of the earlier episodes to offset the negatives. Moreover, unlike previous episodes when oil price hikes were managed, this time, damage to production capacity constrains how much the GCC economies will be enriched.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates that the damage to over 80 energy facilities in the Gulf states may cost $58 billion and take several years to repair. As of April, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has sharply slashed growth projections: Qatar -8.6%, Kuwait -0.6%, Bahrain -0.5%, Oman 3.5%, UAE 3.1%, and Saudi Arabia 3.1%. While Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates can re-route significant exports bypassing the Strait of Hormuz, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar have no alternatives. Even for the others, reconstruction will likely stretch out for years, with QatarEnergy's damaged facilities at Ras Laffan expected to take up to five years.

Apart from the damage to hardware, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries now face the issue of regional security and stability. Financial centres such as Dubai will have to work hard to persuade professionals and businesses that it is safe to return. All considered, it is unlikely that economic momentum will return soon, with repercussions for energy prices and supply, and remittance flows to South Asia for some years.



The Super El Niño builds up: Meteorologists increasingly warn of a Super El Niño event occurring in 2026 and early 2027. The event is called when the average sea surface temperatures rise 2 degrees Celsius above normal. Such events have only occurred four times since 1950. The temperature readings over the central Pacific suggest the El Niño currently developing could surpass records set in 1877 and 2015.

The El Niño effect disturbs monsoons across South Asia and significantly raises temperatures. These developments will hurt agricultural production, erode rural incomes, and threaten droughts. The damage to rural consumption spending can last for several years, depending on its severity and spread.

AI and job insecurity: While rural incomes are at risk from the Super El Niño, urban white-collar workers face a growing threat of displacement by AI-augmented labour. The World Bank reports that jobs requiring AI skills command a 30% premium, while job listings for the most exposed white-collar jobs fell by 20%. The WB report also notes that South Asia scores below the emerging market average on AI readiness across all five key dimensions: government readiness, digital infrastructure, human capital, technological innovation, and legal framework. India is the notable exception, but it is also the most exposed due to the large number of people employed in legacy technology outsourcing jobs.

Regardless of the actual number of jobs lost, job insecurity is already widespread. As a result, consumer confidence and spending are likely to weaken, compounding the expected softness in rural demand over the next few years.

Staving off stagflation: All the factors will work to dampen growth across South Asia to different degrees. The smaller economies – Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Maldives – are likely to suffer the most due to the fewer options available, but Pakistan, Bangladesh and India will slow down. Meanwhile, imported inflation from crude price hikes and depreciating currencies will stoke inflation and make for stagflationary conditions. Fiscal and monetary policy will be fully stretched to manage price stability and revive growth while also steadying currencies.

Apart from the above, the risk of the AI tech bubble bursting globally over the next few years hangs over all countries as a handful of companies try to justify the stratospheric valuations. More specifically for South Asia, air travel disruptions and uncertainty related to the war in West Asia also dampen tourism flows, adding to the woes of Maldives, Sri Lanka, and Nepal, disproportionately.

If the above sounds like a litany of everything that could go wrong, you are right: it is. The objective here is to be prepared as institutions and as individuals, to safeguard our professional and personal lives. We need to be ready to survive the worst of the energy, fertiliser, food, supply chain, and jobs crisis, so we live to fight another day.

(The writer is a financial economist and angel investor)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Remembering a son of sand dunes

Despite his stardom, Sidhu Moosewala remained deeply rooted

COL H P SINGH

I had expected my son to develop a more refined taste in music after studying at a reputed heritage boarding school. Yet such was the magnetic pull of this Punjabi rapper that not just my child but an entire generation seemed enthralled by him. One day, out of sheer curiosity, I tuned in to one of his most popular tracks, *295*. To my surprise, I found myself drawn to its lyrics and the subtle message beneath them. In a chilling twist of fate, Sidhu Moosewala was murdered that very evening – May 29, 2022.

The sheer tide of mourners after his death stirred my curiosity about the man. Beginning as a songwriter, he shot to fame overnight with his debut album in 2018. He won the Best Lyricist award for *So High* at the Brit Asia TV Music Awards, while *Bambiha Bol* featured among the top five on the Global YouTube music charts. *The Guardian* listed him among 50 emerging artists, and *Spotify* ranked him among Punjab's most popular singers. He also became the first Indian artist to perform at the Wireless Festival in Canada. An impressive résumé indeed.

As he muscled his way up the ladder of fame, controversy trailed him. His lyrics and themes were frequently accused of glorifying gun culture. He often locked horns with fellow singers, taking sharp digs at them during live performances. Few artists inspired such fierce devotion and equally fierce criticism. Admirers saw in him a grounded man rooted in tradition, while detractors dismissed him as brash and boastful about his meteoric rise to stardom.

Yet there was another side to him, far removed from the swagger of his songs. Despite his stardom, he remained deeply rooted, choosing to live in his native village of Moosa, which he immortalised by adding its name to his own. He spoke of his parents with reverence, and his affection for them echoed repeatedly through his songs. Though he often antagonised religious leaders, he also inspired thousands of his faith to wear the turban, a cherished symbol of his religion. In many ways, he was a living contradiction unto himself.

I also noticed how often he alluded to an untimely death in his songs. Call it premonition or coincidence; fate seemed to echo his final release, *The Last Ride*, issued days before his death. There was, moreover, an uncanny parallel between Moosewala and his idol, Tupac Shakur, the American rapper. Both rocketed to fame with astonishing speed, commanded cult-like followings and gave voice to the concerns of ordinary people. And in a chilling symmetry, both met violent deaths in their youth under strikingly similar circumstances.

Moosa village was once a quiet hamlet amid sand dunes (called *tibbey* in Punjabi). Yet while those dunes disappeared by the march of the Green Revolution, this *tibbeyan da putt* (son of sand dunes) continues to live in the hearts of his fans. Somewhere along the way, I realised I too had become one of them.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Urgent reforms needed in examinations

I refer to 'Paper leaks, blotched valuation, broken trust' (Jun 1). India's national examination framework is facing a severe crisis of credibility. The repeated failures of premier testing bodies have laid bare a deep institutional malaise. The shocking cancellation of the NEET-UG 2026 medical entrance exam due to a leaked "guess paper" on WhatsApp has affected nearly 23 lakh students. This failure is compounded by the CBSE Class 12 evaluation bungling, where widespread errors in calculating final scores forced thousands into panic, and by the technical glitches that paralysed the computer-based CUET-UG 2026. Whether it is secured paper-setting or digital infrastructure, the authorities have demonstrated a complete inability to manage high-stakes testing. Relying on an *ad hoc* workforce and outsourced private vendors has created single points of failure. This chronic mismanagement reduces robust academic evaluation to a game of chance, trading student merit for systemic privilege. Absolute accountability and structural overhauls are no longer optional—they are an urgent necessity to rescue our dying education ecosystem.
N Sadhasiva Reddy, Bengaluru

Axe the non-performers

Apropos 'Siddu, Shivakumar to meet Congress top brass in Delhi today' (Jun 1), while it is an established fact that caste equations play a key role in Cabinet formation in Karnataka, the CM-designate, D K Shivakumar, who is all set to take office on June 3, should ensure that the performance of ministers who were a part of the Siddaramaiah Cabinet is evaluated and non-performers are axed. The Cabinet must contain new faces. As three years have elapsed since the government came to power in 2023, the ministers who have been holding office should have proved their worth and can hardly have any excuses for subpar performances.
C V Aravind, Bengaluru

Congratulations!

It is a back-to-back win for the RCB in the Indian Premier League. The team displayed all-round excellence throughout this season. The manner in which the team turned potential into performance paid rich dividends. Every player contributed immensely to RCB's success. Congratulations to the champions!
H P Murali, Bengaluru

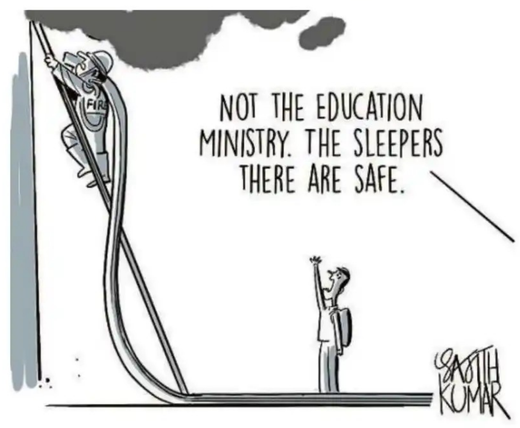
Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

They (DMK) let drugs reach every village and failed to control the problem. Now, they are dumping the blame on me.
C Joseph Vijay, Tamil Nadu CM

You can either blame everybody else or you can take a look at yourself and determine where you can improve.
Robert Kiyosaki

TO BE PRECISE



IN PERSPECTIVE

Sarna, Sanatan and contested identity

Beyond the claims of protecting disadvantaged Adivasis, delisting tribal converts furthers a deeper political agenda

SUJIT KUMAR

On May 24, Janjati Suraksha Manch, an affiliate of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), organised the *Janjati Sanskriti Samagam* (tribal cultural intermingling) at the Red Fort in New Delhi. The event appeared to extend the RSS's outreach to Adivasis. The participants chanted *Sarna Sanatan ek hai* (both Sarna and Sanatan are one) while attacking religious conversion among tribes, particularly to Christianity, by demanding the delisting of tribal converts. In line with the RSS's culturally assimilative strategy, the podium had both Sangh ideologues, mainly from the tribal community, and political heavyweights such as Home Minister Amit Shah.

Shah's consistent reference to the Adivasis as Vanvasi, as per the Sangh's original lexicon, inferring tribals as forest-dwelling backward communities, has been opposed by Adivasi organisations in Jharkhand.

Parallelly, the Raji Parha, dedicated to traditional governance among Adivasis, and the Christian Adivasi Mahasabha took out a march culminating in a rally, in Jashpurnagar, Chhattisgarh. The march sought unity among Adivasis against the delisting and demanded a separate religious code (Sarna) for the tribals. Interestingly, no political party has challenged the calls for delisting. The demand for a separate religious code for tribals was passed as a resolution in the Jharkhand State Assembly in 2020 and forwarded to the central government for approval. It is in this context that the delisting and its impact on India's tribal politics must be studied. The important question here is: Does delisting promise better prospects for the underrepresented tribes, as claimed?

The video from the Delhi event underlines its political nature and a deep resentment among the participants against their Christian brethren. They believe that Christian converts corner most of the reservation benefits provided by the State, disadvantaging the rest of the tribals. The demand for delisting goes beyond what has been secured in eight states with Schedule V areas in the form of the Freedom of Religion Act. These laws prescribe rigorous official processes and penalties for religious conversion, intended to curtail unlawful conversions driven by allurement, etc. The demand truly entails a religio-cultural entrenchment of Hindutva among the tribes, while violating their right to religious freedom, as converts will lose their tribal status even if they followed legal conversion processes.

In his address to the participants, Shah said that tribals need not fear the Uniform Civil Code, as their customs and traditions would be kept out of its ambit. What he said has little relevance because these customs are already protected under the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA) 1996, and all states with Schedule V areas, except Odisha, have notified PESA rules. Not very surprisingly, Shah remained silent on the separate faith code, indicating this demand will remain unfulfilled, as preparatory work on the census is already underway.

High political stakes

Notably, political parties such as the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) are silent on the issue. So who are the political actors gaining leverage from this episode? How will this politics play out for the tribal population?

The JMM's silence must be analysed from its position as a ruling party. While in power, the JMM has not displayed major differences from other political parties. It has acted against social organisations that take up causes like the protection of resources. Moreover, the party does not appear to favour devolution of powers to the tribal community. These factors lower the JMM's credibility among the tribal voters, though the party secured emphatic support during the general elections and the Assembly elections in 2024.

The inability of a ruling party to push the Sarna narrative is critical because the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has managed to build on this disconnect. It has made targeted efforts to leverage the faultlines within the tribal community.

Delisting can become a political tool to separate the Christian converts and help the aspirational tribal youth who subscribe to the Hindutva narrative emerge as leaders of the community. Tribal converts continue to avail the benefits of reservation and contest elections from constituencies reserved for ST. Legislation of the delisting process is likely to run into legal challenges, given the judiciary's position that a person belonging to a Scheduled Tribe does not lose his or her tribal status just because of having converted to another religion.

But before those challenges take shape, the BJP appears to have taken control of the political narrative.

(The writer teaches at the School of Development, Azim Premji University, Bengaluru)

India's exam economy: Why students bear the cost of institutional failure

TRISHNA SARKAR

Every year, between March and August, India experiences two kinds of heat — one seasonal, the other institutional. The latter is the exam season: a prolonged cycle of tests, results, re-evaluations, paper leaks, and admission deadlines that drains students and families financially, emotionally, and psychologically. Unlike a heatwave, this one is entirely man-made.

When CBSE results are released, the impact goes far beyond the individual student. A score of 78 instead of 85 doesn't just affect a grade — it ripples through an entire household. A father who took a loan to fund coaching, a mother who promised relatives a 90+ score, a younger sibling absorbing what failure means in that home — all of them feel the weight of that number. The re-evaluation process, costing approximately Rs 500 per subject, is rarely completed with calm detachment. It is filled out by parents simultaneously consoling their child and calculating expenses, checking if university cut-offs have shifted, and navigating admission portals whose deadlines don't pause for anyone's uncertainty. Students unhappy with scores across three or four subjects can easily spend Rs 5,000 to Rs 10,000 on rechecking fees alone — not counting the anxiety, missed deadlines, or the humiliation of a system that tells students: We may have made an error, but proving it will cost you.

CBSE, however, is only the starting point. NEET-UG — the sole gateway to every MBBS seat in India, written by roughly 24 lakh students annually — exposed how catastrophic large-scale exam failure can look. In 2024, the exam was engulfed in scandal: allegations of paper leaks across multiple states, grace marks awarded to 1,563 students under murky circumstances, and six candidates from a single centre in Godhra achieving perfect scores. The Supreme Court was eventually drawn in while the NTA's credibility collapsed publicly. Students weren't just inconvenienced — they were suspended between an unreliable result and an admission they couldn't confirm, all while MBBS counselling was actively underway. The Rs 1,700 exam fee seems trivial against the true cost of a NEET attempt: two to four years of coaching at Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 4 lakh annually, plus accommodation, study materials, and years of deferred living. When the system fails and a student must retake, none of those sunk costs are reimbursed. The fee is charged again, coaching resumes, and a year is lost, while the family, which may have borrowed against land or pension savings for the first attempt, must somehow find resources for a second.

The pattern repeats across other examinations. JEE Main sees server crashes, admit card problems, last-minute centre changes, and a score normalisation formula never transparently explained. CUET, launched in 2022 to simplify undergraduate admissions, cancelled and rescheduled papers for over two lakh students in its very first year, compressing Delhi University's entire admission cycle and forcing 17-year-olds to choose colleges with incomplete information. CLAT has had answer key disputes reach the Supreme Court. Each exam follows the same troubling pattern: when the institution fails, it faces reputational damage; when it fails the student, the student bears the full financial and temporal cost. This asymmetry is not accidental — it is built into the design.

Taken together, these systems form what can be called an anxiety extraction economy — one where the core product is not knowledge or certification but uncertainty itself, manufactured and then sold back to students as paid solutions. The formula is straightforward: concentrate enormous stakes into a single exam, monetise preparation through the coaching industry, charge for participation, introduce systemic errors, and then charge again to resolve the resulting doubt — Rs 500 to recheck a paper, Rs 700 to access an answer sheet, and Rs 100 per question to raise a challenge. Delays become profitable, as missed admissions feed another cycle of reappearing, additional fees, and more coaching. Unlike conventional corruption, this system operates in plain sight — every charge is published, every portal is official, and every payment comes with a receipt. It has transformed extraction into administration, which is precisely why it endures.

Beneath all of this sits a psychological toll that largely goes unmeasured. Mental health professionals working with young people during exam season describe something resembling institutionalised anxiety, not ordinary exam stress, but the particular anguish of not knowing whether the system itself can be trusted. Families carry this too in dinner table silences, in quietly extended loans, and in a culture where a child's result is treated as a verdict on the entire household.

India's National Education Policy 2020 speaks earnestly of reducing exam stress and reforming assessments. The lived reality suggests that stress hasn't decreased; it has simply been monetised more efficiently. Students pay to prepare, pay to sit exams, pay to verify results, and sometimes pay again when institutions err. What a student learns through this process runs deeper than any syllabus. They learn, early and unforgettably, that public institutions are transactions — and that they are consistently on the losing end. When a student pays to confirm whether they were evaluated fairly, they are purchasing, at steep personal cost, a fragment of trust that should have been guaranteed from the very start.

In that sense, the system works perfectly — not by reducing stress, but by training students to pay for others' mistakes and politely call it progress.

(The writer is faculty in the Department of Economics, Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, University of Delhi)

As memories of the 20th century horrors fade, the appeal of authoritarian alternatives is growing. History's warnings, it seems, are becoming easier to ignore

The fire of stupidity cannot be contained

DAVID FRENCH

It's the year 2026, and sometimes it feels as if we're taking a nice leisurely walk through a Museum of Wretched Ideas.

Consider what's happening in the United States. Tariffs raise prices and restrain economic growth, while the federal government embraces both Gilded Age corruption and a version of the spoils system. A disturbing number of young people on the right are fascinated with fascism. An extraordinary 34% of young people overall express a favourable view of communism, and young Americans are far more likely than their parents or grandparents to say that political violence is "sometimes OK."

And hovering over American culture like a dark cloud is the rise of antisemitism on both the left and the right. Once again, ancient slanders are circulating through the culture.

Or consider what is happening abroad. Germany rearms to confront the Russian threat. Japan rearms to deter China. War rages in Europe and in West Asia. Threats of territorial expansion haunt the world. Russia is trying to grab Ukraine. China continues to covet Taiwan. And the Trump administration, incredibly enough, has cast its expansionist eyes on Greenland.

When you step back and actually think about it, these trends are confounding. I mean, I can understand the temptation to return to some of the discredited ideas of the recent past, I guess, but to revive so many, all at once? And to do it so soon after those wretched ideas ravaged the world?

What is going on?

The answer lies in part in the interplay between two political sayings that are so oft-repeated that they have become clichés. When they should be top of mind, though, they seem to have lost their impact.

Here's the first (and you can probably say it along with me), from George Santayana in 1905: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." We can argue about the precise historical parallels, but the echoes of the past are everywhere.

Here's the second, from Winston Churchill in 1947: "It has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried."

It is no coincidence that authoritarianism is once again appealing to people at a time when two things are happening at once. Liberal democracies are struggling to meet the needs of a substantial portion of their citizens, and entire generations have come of age with no living memory of the totalitarian horrors of the 20th century.

In other words, millions upon millions of people are enduring democracy as "the worst form of government" without the necessary balanced understanding (that citizens in the mid-20th century had gained through first-hand observation) of "except all those other forms that have been tried."

So even fascism and communism — for some people, at least — are no longer avatars of atrocity, but dynamic alternatives to a sclerotic present. In their frustration, all too many people are attracted to the theoretical benefits of authoritarianism, and they don't have the experience or the education to understand its actual and inevitable defects.

The riots that swept US cities in the 1960s were far more violent than the 2020 Capitol Hill unrest. Historical distance from such experiences can lend political violence an undeserved allure. NYT

They do not understand the link between their fashionable and transgressive ideologies and the oceans of blood that fascism and communism spilled across the globe.

In this ahistorical context, even political violence can seem justified — perhaps even a bit daring and romantic — unless you've lived through, say, the riots that swept American cities in the 1960s, a cataclysm that was far more violent, deadly and prolonged than anything that happened in the United States in 2020.

In 2024, I taught an undergraduate class with a catchy title, "Why American Politics Went Insane." At the risk of shortening a semester to a sentence, the devolution proceeded in three stages, from victory to separation to radicalisation.

When the Cold War ended, the United States, for the first time since the wars against Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan, faced no external challenges to its prosperity and power. We were, in the words of former French Foreign Minister Hubert Védrine, the "hyperpower."

I began with *The End of History*, to borrow a term from Francis Fukuyama's misunderstood book, but I began with his prescient warning near the end:

If men cannot struggle on behalf of a just cause because that just cause was victorious in an earlier generation, then they will struggle against the just cause. They will struggle for the sake of struggle. They will struggle, in other words, out of a certain boredom: for they cannot imagine living in a world without struggle. And if the greater part of the world in which they live is characterised by peaceful and prosperous liberal democracy, then they will struggle against that peace and prosperity, and against democracy.

That is exactly what we are doing. We are struggling against each other. Some of us are struggling against democracy itself. America is the only nation out of 25 comparable countries in which a majority of people believe that their fellow citizens are morally bad. It should be no surprise, then, that negative partisanship (when you support your party primarily because of your disdain for its opponents) is a central factor in American politics.

This drives us apart. Ever increasing numbers of American citizens live in one-party states or so-called blowout counties, where one side or the other wins presidential elections by 50 points or more.

And what happens when people of like mind gather together? The law of group polarisation, first applied to political decision making by law professor and author Cass Sunstein in 1999, teaches us that when like-minded people deliberate, they become more extreme.

Create a monoculture, and red becomes deep red. Blue becomes deep blue. And as the two sides move farther apart, both geographically and ideologically, we lose even the capacity to understand each other's lives and thoughts.

If I taught the class over again, though, I'd add a fourth stage: amnesia. The problem isn't just that we're at each other's throats; it's that we're turning to the worst of recent history's alternative ideas in response.

It's no coincidence that this is happening at a time when a generation of world leaders has no experience with world wars and rising millions of young people have no experience with real fascism and actual communism.

When experience ends, education has to begin. You can't just know what the Holocaust was; you also have to understand the Holodomor. The phrase "the guns of August" should mean something to you, and when you see every great power press on the military gas — with no one pumping the brakes — that should trigger the most urgent concern.

Few things are demonstrating that what's old is new again more than the rising tide of antisemitism. How many times must ancient lies be debunked? Must it happen every generation, for thousands of years?

So now we face a test. Can we educate ourselves away from disaster? Is there enough knowledge left to penetrate not just the minds, but also the hearts, of people who are deeply discontented?

A few weeks ago, a clip from the remarkable HBO series *Band of Brothers* went viral online. It was from the episode in which the boys of Easy Company discover a concentration camp. The impact is visceral. It's impossible for a decent person to watch it without vowing to himself or herself, "Never again."

I'm also reminded of a horrific scene at the opening of Netflix's science fiction drama, *3 Body Problem*, featuring a struggle session during China's Cultural Revolution. Once again, the impact is visceral. The brutality is hard to watch.

Television isn't enough. Books aren't enough. The stories of fathers and mothers, grandmothers and grandfathers, aren't enough. It will take everything — watching, reading, listening — to make us remember.

We have to know that the world as it is, with all its inefficiencies and injustices, is better than the world that was. I pray that we can learn that lesson before bitter experience teaches us once again that this imperfect democracy and this frustrating liberal world order are infinitely better than the violence and oppression — the deliberate starvation and slaughter of millions of men, women and children — of the none-too-distant past.

The New York Times

The white paradox

RESHAM NAGPAL AND KRITIKA SONI

India is the world's largest milk producer, contributing nearly a quarter of the global output; however, it is barely on the map when it comes to dairy exports. As per recent data, India produced 248 million tonnes of milk in 2024-25, accounting for about 25% of the global milk output, contributing 5% to the national economy, and supporting nearly 450 million people across 90 million rural households, especially women and small farmers. Yet, its share in global dairy exports was less than 1%.

This imbalance becomes even more puzzling when viewed over time. During the past decade (2014-2015 to 2024-2025), milk production grew at a CAGR of 5.4%, while the export quantity grew at a meagre 0.13%. So why does the world's largest milk producer remain a marginal player in global dairy trade?

One clue lies in the mismatch between what India produces and what the world demands. Currently, global trade is dominated by countries specialising in high-value products. European nations such as the Netherlands, Germany, and France lead in cheese exports, while the United States and Australia have a strong presence in milk powders, whey, and lactose. New Zealand offers the sharpest contrast. Despite producing only about 8% of India's milk, it exports nearly 28 times more in value, driven by high-margin products such as cheese, butter, infant formula, and protein concentrates.

In contrast, India's milk production remains predominantly unprocessed. Of the total milk production in 2024-2025, 85% was in the form of fluid milk. While global demand is steadily shifting toward high-value processed items such as cheese, whey, and infant formula, India's dairy export basket continues to be dominated by traditional products, including butter and *ghee* (59%) and skimmed milk powder (27%), while cheese accounts for just 10%.

Another reason for constrained export potential is India's huge domestic consumption. Milk has a central role in the largely vegetarian Indian diet, with 93% of rural households and 95% of urban households reporting daily milk consumption. In fact, per capita milk availability in India reached approximately 485 grams per day in 2024-2025, significantly higher than the global average of 328 grams per day.

Structural constraints further limit export readiness. In India, about 37% of the milk produced is either consumed by the producer or sold locally to non-producer households in the rural areas, leaving a substantial share out of the market. Of the 63% marketable surplus, only 32% is handled by the organised sector, while the remaining 68% lies with the unorganised sector. This is in stark contrast to the developed countries, where up to 90% of surplus milk is handled through the organised sector. Milk handled in the unorganised sector is vulnerable to challenges such as adulteration, exploitation of dairy farmers, and lack of value addition.

Moreover, India's dairy structure is highly fragmented, with 80% of farmers owning only one to three animals while producing nearly 70% of total milk output. This fragmentation leads to quality inconsistency, hinders economies of scale, and limits processing capabilities, which are essential for export competitiveness.

Compounding these issues are infrastructural bottlenecks, particularly in cold-chain facilities. India faces an 80% shortage of essential refrigeration systems, making it challenging to rapidly cool fresh milk from 38 degrees Celsius to 4 degrees C within the critical three-to-five-hour window. According to ASSOCHAM and MRSS (2023), nearly 3% of India's milk, or approximately 6.3 million tonnes, is lost each year due to spoilage, primarily caused by inadequate cold-storage and transport systems. This constraint severely limits export capabilities by significantly reducing milk's shelf life and quality.

Even where supply exists, regulatory and cost barriers restrict market access. India's dairy exports often fall short of the sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards required by markets like the European Union. In a 2018 survey by FSSAI, of 6,432 milk samples tested nationwide, 5.7% contained cancer-causing aflatoxin M1, 3% had ammonium sulphate, and 1.2% tested positive for antibiotics, raising concerns about both food safety and export readiness. On the cost side, poor logistics and energy inefficiencies add a 10-15% cost burden to food exports, eroding India's price advantage and undermining export competitiveness.

All these factors together impede India's significant export potential. India currently ranks 20th in global dairy exports, earning about $374 million with its exports concentrated in a few countries, including the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the US, and Egypt. Realising this potential will require a shift from quantity-driven growth to quality-led competitiveness through stronger cold-chain and testing infrastructure, improved processing capacity, and greater focus on high-value products such as cheese, infant formula, and specialised dairy ingredients.

(Resham is an assistant professor, NIPFP, and Kritika is an independent researcher)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: JUNE 1976

China renews support to Pakistan on Kashmir

Hong Kong, June 1
A joint communiqué issued today at the end of Pakistan Prime Minister Bhutto's five-day official visit to China, restated China's support for self-determination in Kashmir. It said the Chinese Government and people "firmly support the struggle of the people of Jammu and Kashmir for attaining their right to self- determination." The Chinese Government welcomed the positive developments in the relations between Pakistan and Bangla Desh, the communiqué said.

25 YEARS AGO: JUNE 2001

CM clears quota for Kannada medium students

Bangalore, June 1
Chief Minister S M Krishna is said to have given his consent to extend the five per cent horizontal reservation for students who have studied in Kannada medium from Class I to X for admissions to all professional courses including BEd, MEd, BPEd and MPEd courses. There was some confusion whether the Cabinet decision of May 19 to provide five per cent horizontal reservation for Kannada medium students was for admissions to all professional courses or restricted only to medical, dental or engineering courses.

OASIS | DOROTHY VICTOR

Of spirituality and cleanliness

The other day, when a heavy downpour lashed the city, I was returning home from an errand. On the 45-minute commute during the rain I saw one of the ugliest and most frightening sights imaginable. Dirty, brown, muddy water overflowed and flooded the main roads. In barely 30 minutes of rain, I saw how fragile our city's infrastructure truly is. I also witnessed how helpless the citizens become, taking refuge in unsafe shelters while vehicles struggled through flooded roads, uncertain if they would sink into deep potholes or uncovered drains.

When I finally reached home, I breathed a sigh of relief. But the relief was short-lived, as images of the filthy and chaotic streets kept replaying in my mind. Just then, I also recalled the perennial garbage-ridden surroundings of our cities. The incorrigible habit of people casually throwing garbage bags and sundry other items along roadsides also came to mind. I thought too of the numerous stray dogs in the city and the irresponsible dog owners who allow their pets to relieve themselves anywhere, leaving roads littered with filth.

As these images replayed in my mind, I found myself wondering: Is it entirely fair to place all the blame on the government for this situation? What about our responsibility as citizens? How conscious are we of cleanliness and our civic duties? I reflected further and began to discover a profound connection between spirituality and cleanliness.

A truly spiritual person, I believe, cannot remain indifferent to filth and public neglect. For, just as spirituality teaches purity of mind and soul, cleanliness reflects purity in our actions and surroundings. Cleanliness is not merely a civic duty; it mirrors our character, values, and respect for the community we live in. Cleanliness nurtures harmony and mindfulness. A clean environment is testament of personal discipline, respect for others, and reverence for creation itself.

Perhaps this is why many spiritual traditions regard cleanliness as a form of self-mastery – a path toward purity in thought, action, and intention. In caring for our surroundings, we are also caring for our collective spirit.

True spirituality is thus not confined to prayer, rituals, or meditation alone. It must also manifest in the way we keep our surroundings. May we understand this connection and always strive to attain and maintain cleanliness everywhere.

Posts about Google-Adani data centre blocked: HRF

Forum alleges crackdown on critical content

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

The Human Rights Forum (HRF) on Monday alleged that there were attempts to suppress social media criticism and discussion on the proposed Google-Adani-led hyperscale data centre projects in and around Visakhapatnam.

HRF said that on May 31, Instagram restricted two of its posts in India. One post was publicising an online petition seeking transparency and accountability regarding the proposed data centre projects.

The second was an information post documenting, among other things, the ongoing work at the proposed Vizag Hyperscale Data Centre site at Adavivaram, located close to the Mudasarlova reservoir.

The post raised questions about the legality of activities being undertaken at the site in the absence of the requisite permissions. Instagram indicated that the restrictions were imposed under Section 79(3)(b) of the Information Technology Act, 2000.

"The online petition raised serious concerns about public importance relating to environmental impacts, land use, water consumption, energy requirements, public consultation, forest loss and the long-term consequences of these projects for local communities and natural resources, said HRF Andhra unit secretary Y Rajesh.

"These are matters of direct public concern arising from important policy decisions. Such concerns are legitimate matters for public discussion in any democracy. Citizens and civil society organisations have every right to seek information, question official claims, express dissenting views and demand accountability in relation to projects that may significantly affect their lives and environment," Rajesh added.

Rajesh said the restrictions imposed on HRF content by Instagram do not appear to be isolated incidents but form part of a broader pattern.

He reminded that the Environmental Reporting Collective (ERC), an international consortium of investigative journalists, has publicly disclosed that Instagram blocked access in India to a video connected to its investigation into the environmental and social impacts of data centre expansion in Vizag.

HRF has also received a communication from X about its critical posts on data centre projects. However, X has not restricted the content yet.

HRF Andhra and Telangana Coordination committee member VS Krishna said these actions by major technology platforms represent a deeply concerning infringement on the public's right to information, debate and collective deliberations that may profoundly affect the region's future.

MUZZLING VOICES

- The proposed Google-Adani-led hyperscale data centre projects are in and around Visakhapatnam
- HRF's one post was publicising an online petition seeking transparency and accountability
- The other post had information about the ongoing work at the data centre site at Adavivaram

A woman lawyer's hard work gets apex recognition

Elevation to SC strengthens gender representation at top

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Union Law Ministry on Monday cleared the Supreme Court Collegium's recommendation to elevate senior advocate V Mohana as a judge of the apex court, marking a significant milestone for women in the Indian judiciary.

Mohana becomes only the second woman lawyer practising in the Supreme Court to be directly appointed as a judge. Justice Indu Malhotra was the first.

With no legal family background to lean on, Mohana's rise is a story of quiet perseverance and relentless hard work.

She belonged to the first batch of India's five-year integrated law programme and graduated from Coimbatore Law College in 1988, when the institution functioned from rented premises with basic infrastructure.

Despite limited resources and few women classmates, she excelled academically while also participating in debates, theatre and public speaking. She supported herself by giving tuitions and lived in a working women's hostel.

In her final year, Mohana joined the chambers of civil lawyer M Panchapakesan, where she learnt the fundamentals of litigation — maintaining case diaries, drafting pleadings and observing court proceedings.

In 1992, she moved to New Delhi and joined the office of Indu Malhotra (who later became an SC judge) as an advocate-on-record. She handled drafting of special leave petitions, writ petitions and briefed senior counsel in key constitutional cases.

Senior advocate V Mohana

She subsequently worked with senior advocate CS Vaidyanathan, honing her research and advocacy skills in important matters such as the Amratlal Prajivandas (SAFEMA) case and proceedings related to the Jain Commission.

Over the years, she collaborated with leading lawyers including Kapil Sibal, K K Venugopal, P Chidambaram, Arun Jaitley and TR Andhyarujina.

Mohana cleared the advocate-on-record examination in 1996 while raising a young child and began independent practice in the Supreme Court, Delhi High Court, consumer forums and tribunals.

She represented the Government of India in constitutional, criminal, corruption, narcotics and service matters. She was designated a senior advocate by the Supreme Court in 2015.

A strong advocate for greater representation of women in the legal profession, Mohana has also been actively involved in mediation, legal aid and pro bono work.

Her journey from a modest law college in Coimbatore to the highest court of the land is expected to serve as an inspiration for aspiring lawyers, particularly women. Her elevation will further strengthen gender representation on the Supreme Court bench.

Former SC Advocates-on-Record Association president Vipin Nair said Mohana is a shining example of how the slow and steady win the race. "No frills or flamboyance, but a legal practice built on fundamentals — Mohana symbolises success through hard work, from the grassroots to the very top. From advocate to AOR to senior counsel to SC judge, she has completed the full circle," he said.

SC questions waqf institutions over court fees exemption

NEW DELHI, PTI: The Supreme Court on Monday questioned the legal basis for exempting waqf institutions from payment of court fees in proceedings before state waqf tribunals.

A bench of Justices PS Narasimha and Aravind Kumar made the remarks while hearing a plea against an order of the Gujarat High Court that upheld the rejection of waqf suits for non-payment of court fees by relying on its earlier ruling that waqf institutions are not exempt from paying court fees before the State Waqf Tribunal.

Advocate Ejaz Maqbool, appearing for petitioners, sought time to file additional documents challenging the Gujarat High Court's December 2025 decision.

Justice Narasimha, however, questioned Maqbool about the basis of the claim for exemption from court fees.

"How can there be an exemption? What is the law that allows you to seek an exemption from court fees?" he asked.

On December 17, 2025, the Gujarat High Court dismissed a batch of petitions filed by waqf institutions challenging the Gujarat State Waqf Tribunal's orders rejecting proceedings over disputes relating to waqf properties on account of insufficient court fees.

Buck stops with PM: Panel on NEET

AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS

A parliamentary panel may recommend that the government adopt the computer-based test (CBT) method over the traditional pen-and-paper system to ensure security against paper leaks, in light of the cancellation of the NEET-UG exams.

The Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports, led by Congress Rajya Sabha member Digvijaya Singh, made the observation during a meeting with officials.

The panel had summoned the Director General of the National Testing Agency (NTA), along with officials from the education and health ministries and representatives of the United Doctors Front, to examine various methods of conducting examinations and compare the pen-and-paper format with the CBT system.

Members of Krantikari Yuva Sangathan being detained during a protest against the NTA in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

It has also summoned the CBSE and the Education Ministry on Tuesday to discuss the onscreen marking (OSM) method and the three-language policy.

'PM irked with Pradhan'

After the meeting, panel chairperson Digvijaya Singh said the buck stops with the prime minister. "The PM is so miffed with the failures of Dharmendra Pradhan (education minister) that he has taken up all the responsibilities himself. Hence, it is their responsibility. We hope it will be addressed... Now we are hoping that under the PM, paper leaks will not happen," he said.

Members present said that while several suggestions were made on how exams could be made more secure, the overwhelming majority agreed that a computer-based model would plug more security loopholes.

Last week, the Modi government even deliberated on whether the Indian Air Force could be roped in to ensure the safe delivery of papers to exam halls.

Another member said that while a strong report had been submitted to the government the last time the UGC-NET examination was cancelled due to leaks, the government has yet to act on several recommendations.

The same panel last week also explored the possibility of a unified entrance exam for engineering and medical courses instead of IIT-JEE and NEET-UG tests. During the meeting, the NTA refused to term the NEET-UG episode a "leak", saying it would wait for the CBI to do so; the agency is currently investigating the matter.

CBSE re-evaluation site launch delayed

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The launch of the re-evaluation portal of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) was delayed after young ethical hackers pointed out security breaches.

The portal wasscheduled to go live on Monday morning, but could not take off till late evening. Sources in the CBSE said it could go live later in the night once the security loopholes were dealt with.

The board said in a statement that the site is "under updation".

"Scanned copies of the answer sheets are being sent to the candidate's registered email addresses provided at the time of the request. These copies will be made available subsequently in the candidate's account," the statement read.

The site did not go live till the filing of this report after ethical hacker Nisarga Adhikary said he reported "an open payment info endpoint" to CERT-IN.

The On-screen Marking (OSM) system, which was operationalised by the firm Coempt Edu Teck, showed several loopholes, including security breaches that exposed the details of evaluators as well as allowed anyone to take over the OSM site and tamper details.

Another youth, Sarthak Sidhant, who exposed how several conditions in the request for proposal for the tender for OSM were eased to help Coempt win the contract.

The board, on May 29, said the re-evaluation portal will become operational from June 1 to ensure a "transparent and glitch-free process". On Sunday, it admitted to "vulnerabilities" on the portal and said experts were fortifying the system.

CJP founder to return on June 6, will seek Pradhan's resignation

NEW DELHI, PTI: Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke on Monday said he would return to India on June 6 to launch a peaceful protest seeking the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over examination-related lapses.

Abhijeet Dipke

In a video released on Instagram and X, Dipke called on supporters of the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) and students to join the protest in Delhi.

"The time has come for all of us to come together, following the path of the Constitution, and peacefully raise our voices to demand Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation. If we raise our voices together, they will definitely have to listen to us," he said.

Dipke also urged Cockroach Janta Party supporters to join him at the Delhi airport on June 6.

"I will arrive in Delhi on Saturday morning, June 6. Please join me at the airport, and together we will go to the Parliament Street police station to seek permission to hold a peaceful protest at Jantar Mantar," he said.

In the video, Dipke alleged that exam-related controversies had left students anxious and demanded accountability from the government.

Gujarat Police expose cyberfraud worth Rs 2,289 crore in a year

SATISH JHA
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

The Gujarat Police on Monday said that they had busted cyberfraud worth Rs 2,289 crore over the past year in as many as 565 FIRs under "Operation Mule Hunt 1.0".

As part of the operation, the Gujarat Police's Cyber Centre of Excellence (CCOE) not only exposed mule accounts and busted cyberfraud worth thousands of crores but also arrested 638 suspects across the state in connection with these cases during this period, the government said in a press release.

A mule account is a bank account cybercriminals use to receive, transfer, or launder fraudulently-obtained money. The person operating such an account is called a "money mule".

The Police said they launched the operation with the Cyber Centre of Excellence (CCOE) in 2025 to target mule accounts linked to cybercrimes.

"The Gujarat Police team analysed data received from the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), the NCRP Portal, the Coordination Portal, and the 1930 Helpline," said the police, adding that due to the operation, ATM and cheque transactions linked to fraud declined significantly.

Right to be forgotten: HC orders deletion of name-based searches

NEW DELHI, PTI: Recognising an individual's "right to be forgotten", the Delhi High Court has ruled that search engines like Google cannot be perpetually permitted to show judicial records in name-based search for a case which is private in nature or has ended in an acquittal, discharge, quashing or settlement.

Giving relief to a group of petitioners, the court ordered authorities, search engine operators and legal database platforms to de-index and disable the "name-based search functionality" in respect of judgments, orders and news articles cited by the petitioners.

It, however, held that de-indexing is not appropriate in certain cases involving conviction for offences against women or children or for offences involving breach of public trust, offences by public servants, elected representatives, etc. De-indexing refers to the removal of a specific web page or website from a search engine's database.

Justice Sachin Datta said while transparency is integral to judicial independence and accountability, the continued association of an individual's name with a judicial record online causes disproportionate harm to their informational privacy, dignity and reputation, which is not justified by any legitimate public interest.

The court passed the verdict on a batch of over 30 petitions by individuals who invoked their "right to be forgotten".

KARNATAKA STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION
Ugrana Bhavan, No.43, Primrose Road, Bangalore-560025.
Fax No: 080-29533673, Phone: 29533679
e-mail: kswc.eng@gmail.com Website : www.karnatakawarehousing.com

TENDER NOTIFICATION

No: KSWC/ENG/80/F-37/2026-27 Date: 01.06.2026

The Managing Director, Karnataka State Warehousing Corporation, Bangalore has invited the tender for Empanelment of Engineering Consultancy Services by quality and cost based selection (QC&BS) for preparation of DPR and PMC for the Construction of warehouses, Renovation works and other Repair works in Karnataka State Warehousing Corporation.

The details are available in our website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in The last date for receipt of proposal is on 16.06.2026 up to 5.30 PM. The opening of Technical Bid is on 18.06.2026 at 3.30 PM.

Further details can be obtained from the office of the under signed during working hours and also at Website. https://kswc.karnataka.gov.in For any clarification contact Executive Engineer, KSWC (Mobile: 9916981818/9740675654).

Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR

DIPR/CP/925/AKAR/2026-27

UNIVERSITY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES, BAGALKOT
Office of the Estate Officer, Udyanagiri, Near Simikeri By-Pass, Bagalkot –587104

No: SPO/EO/UHSB/TN-221/2026-27 Date: 01-06-2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot is inviting tender for the Bus, Tractor and trailer etc. for the use of College of Horticulture, Almel. The interested suppliers are requested to participate in the short term tender online through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal. For more details, please contact Ph.No: 08354-230258 and visit the link https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in for detailed specification, conditions and schedule of events and notification.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1	Last date and time for tender queries/ clarification.	10–06–2026	@	14.00 Hrs
2	Last date and time for receipt of tenders.	16–06–2026	@	16.00 Hrs
3	Date and time for opening of Technical Bid	18–06–2026	@	11.00 Hrs
4	Date and time for opening of Financial Bid (if possible)	20–06–2026	@	12.00 Hrs

All bidders shall get updated with corrigendum / addendum received from time to time during the entire tender process by visiting KPP portal.

Sd-ESTATE OFFICER
UHS, BAGALKOT

DIPR/BGK/RO-NO-70/KSMCA/2026-27

Government of Karnataka
(Urban Development Department)
VIJAYAPURA CITY CORPORATION, VIJAYAPURA
Bagalkot Road, Jalanagar-586109
Phone : 08352-278536, Fax: 08352-278532 Help Line : 08352-222474
website: www.bijapurcity.mrc.gov.in, E-mail: itstaff_ulb_bijapur@yahoo.co.in

Ref. No: VCC/Tender/2026-27 Date: 29.05.2026

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Under the Urban Challenge Fund scheme of the Central Government, the Vijayapura City Municipal Corporation has been provided with guidelines to undertake projects by expecting revenue for the corporation through Central Government Capital Assistance (CA) of 25% grant, a minimum of 50% funding through market-based finance such as bank loans and municipal bonds, and through Public/Private/Participatory (PPP) models.

Accordingly, the Vijayapura City Municipal Corporation intends to undertake projects in Vijayapura city as per the above-mentioned guidelines. For this purpose, it has been resolved and a resolution has been passed in the general meeting of the Municipal Corporation held on 30/04/2026. The details of the projects undertaken are as follows.

Sl. No	Name of the Project	(Estimated Amount of the Project) (Rs In Crore)
1	Comprehensive development of inner and outer moat and fort wall of Vijayapura city including rejuvenation and construction of storm water drains and Rajnalas for mitigation of urban flooding.	100.00
2	Construction of multilevel car parking at municipal site near Gandhi chowk in Vijayapura city core area.	40.00

Expression of Interest is hereby invited from interested bankers, qualified agencies, NGOs, and other organizations for the projects mentioned above. In accordance with this notification, interested agencies/NGOs/other organizations are required to submit a Letter of Interest expressing their willingness to participate toCommissioner Vijayapura City Municipal Corporation, Vijayapuraon or before08/06/2026 through post or e-mail (e-mail id: itstaff_ulb_bijapur@yahoo.co.in

If further information and clarification is required, the Executive Engineer (UCF Project) can be contacted in person or by phone/mobile number: 8970098190 and9481082045 and the complete UCF Guidelines and Central Government project details, project location, building plans etc. can be checked on the Vijayapura Municipal Corporation Website: www.bijapurcity.mrc.gov.in

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/117/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2026–27 Executive Engineer, City Corporation, Vijayapura

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
U.R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
HAL Airport Road, Bengaluru - 560 017. (Phone: 080 25084184, 4156)
BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

Sl. No	Description	Details		
1	Name of work	Annual Contract for the Supply of Potable Water To DOS/ISRO Housing Colony at Jeevan Bhima Nagar, Bengaluru	Annual Contract for the Supply of Potable Water To DOS/ISRO Housing Colony at Domlur, Bengaluru	Annual Contract for Supply of Potable Water to DOS/ISRO Housing Colonies at Indira Nagar Newland, Indira Nagar Old land and CISF- Quarters and Barracks at Thippasandra, Bengaluru
2	E-Tender Notice No.	URSC/C&MG/C/M/11/2026-27, Dt. 27/05/2026	URSC/C&MG/C/M/12/2026-27, Dt. 27/05/2026	URSC/C&MG/C/M/13/2026-27, Dt. 27/05/2026
3	Estimated cost put to Tender	₹ 20.16 Lakhs	₹ 18.26 Lakhs	₹ 33.35 Lakhs
4	Period of completion	Twelve Months	Twelve Months	Twelve Months
5	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	₹ 40,320/- valid for 180 days	₹ 36,520/- valid for 180 days	₹ 66,700/- valid for 180 days

Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details along with Hindi version in website: www.isro.gov.in and download the tender documents from www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.

Sd/-
Group Director, C&MG, URSC

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Division Ballari
Email: ee_pwdbellary@yahoo.com Telephone No: 08392 -266123

No: EE/PWD/BD/TS-1/2026-27/1132 Dated :29-05-2026.

Short term Tender Notification (Two Cover Sysytem)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division, Ballari invites the tenders for the works detailed in the table from the eligible contractors registered in Karnataka Public Works Department, through KPP- portal. Two cover tender procedure as per KTPP Act shall be followed. The tender documents can be downloaded through the web-site https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ For any additional information the tenderers may contact the office of the undersigned during office working hours. **TABLE**

Sl No	Details of Works	Amount of Estimate (Rs. in Lakhs)
1)	PWD/2026-27/BR/WORK_INDENT36241	650.00
2)	PWD/2026-27/RD/WORK_INDENT36205	300.00
3)	PWD/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT35418	130.00

Note : Any changes either in tender dates or any other conditions, tenderers can view in KPP_Procurement Portal.

1)Last dates for queries (through KPP –portal): **04-06-2026 upto 12.00 Hours**
2)Last date for submission of tenders through KPP -portal: **08-06-2026 upto 16.00 Hours**
3)Date and time of opening of Technical Bids: **09-06-2026 at 11.30 Hours in the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Ballari.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Ballari.

DIPR/Ballari/2026-27/KSMCA/RO No/197

Centre admits Great Nicobar project relied on single-season field data

Says environmental appraisal integrated long-term datasets and complied with norms

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Union Environment Ministry has admitted that primary field data for the Great Nicobar Island (GNI) project was "collected over a single season".

However, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav wrote in a letter to Congress leader Jairam Ramesh: "Although primary field data for the project was collected over a single seasonal cycle, the analysis integrated freshly collected data with long-term historical datasets available with the institutions, thereby ensuring that the environmental assessment and environmental management plan were scientifically robust, comprehensive and based on site-specific ecological understanding."

In his May 27 letter, Yadav also quoted two orders of the National Green Tribunal from 2023 and 2026, and noted that the tribunal — on both occasions — declined to interfere with the clearances, while directing strict compliance with the specific conditions in the environmental clearance.

In a contentious scheme, the Narendra Modi government plans to set up a mega transhipment port at GNI along with an airport, power plant, townships, road network, and other amenities.

The Rs 92,000-crore proposal has triggered a huge controversy, with environmentalists and Opposition parties claiming the project would destroy the pristine island's ecology beyond repair.

Flagging multiple violations of norms for the GNI project, Ramesh wrote to Yadav on May 10, maintaining that "a robust and complete baseline study needs to cover at least three seasons" because of GNI's unique biodiversity and ecology.

In his response, Yadav defended the project citing multi-tiered appraisals, NGT validation, and long-term scientific studies. The minister said while certain field components involved rapid assessments, the environmental appraisal was not based solely on such short-duration studies.

The appraisal, he said, was based on an integrated analysis of long-term institutional datasets, marine probes, shoreline assessment, and continuous monitoring mechanisms.

"The shoreline change assessment carried out by the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management using six time-series satellite datasets over 17 years concluded that the eastern flank of Galathea Bay, where the proposed port is located, is predominantly stable to moderately accreting due to offshore sheet rock formations and favourable sediment deposition patterns," Yadav wrote.

RCB victory sparks chaos in Kurnool, Hyderabad

HYDERABAD, DHNS: Celebrations following Royal Challengers Bengaluru's (RCB) triumph in the IPL final descended into chaos in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, and parts of Hyderabad, as fans allegedly damaged public property and brought traffic to a standstill.

After the match concluded late at night, hundreds of youths spilled onto the streets carrying flags and banners.

In Kurnool, a group of fans blocked traffic at Raju Vihar Centre, while others hurled stones at a parked private bus, shattering its windows and causing extensive damage. Passengers inside the vehicle were left terrified by the sudden attack. Videos circulating on social media showed large crowds taking over roads, setting off firecrackers and vandalising public property. In several clips, people were seen pulling down barricades, climbing onto moving vehicles and celebrating recklessly.

The situation in some areas grew so volatile that police were forced to intervene, with footage appearing to show officers resorting to lathi charges to disperse crowds and restore order.

In Hyderabad, at the State Secretariat, youngsters were seen zipping around on motorbikes and vandalising traffic barricades amid loud sloganeering.

A police official said cases were registered against 17 individuals under the KPHB police station limits for allegedly causing public nuisance on roads.

Demand to make cow national animal a 'double standard': Yogi

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday termed as a "double standard" the demand by some Muslim clerics to declare the cow the "national animal", saying the cow had always been the "Mother of the Nation" and that there was no need for a formal announcement to validate this status.

"I have come to know that some maulanas have demanded that cows be declared a national animal. The cow is already our mother, and our bond with the cow spans beyond lifetimes. No formal declaration is required to define the relationship between a mother and her child," Adityanath said while addressing an event in Bijnor.

YOGI ADITYANATH
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister

"The cow is our mother. She is not merely an animal. Your mindset is animalistic if you call our Gau Mata an animal.... Gau Mata is our 'Rashtra Mata'.

"On one hand, you (Muslim clerics) encourage cow slaughter and, on the other, you demand that cows be declared a national animal. This is 'doglapan' (double standard)," he added.

He issued a stern warning against cow slaughter, saying his government would punish offenders in such a way that future generations would understand the consequences of the act.

Referring to the recent killing of a Hindu boy allegedly by his Muslim friend in Ghaziabad, Adityanath said parents must rein in wayward children and make them understand that they were committing a grave error by engaging in such acts.

Recently, some Muslim clerics, following the Calcutta HC's observation that cow slaughter was not part of Eid and was not mandatory in Islam, demanded that the cow be declared a national animal.

No social media, negative news helped crack exam: JEE Advanced topper

KOTA, PTI: Not giving in to negative news and abstaining from social media helped Gaya native Shubham Kumar top the joint entrance exam, or JEE, one of the country's toughest entrance exams.

According to results announced Monday morning, Shubham topped JEE-Advance-2026, scoring 330 out of 360. Shy of a mark, Gurugram resident Kabeer Chillar secured the second rank all-India, securing 329.

Both attended classes at Kota's Allen Career Institute.

"I had been toiling hard for the entrance exam for two years, so it was natural to expect good marks," said the 18-year-old who came to Kota as a class 11 student two years ago.

Shubham Kumar

Shubham's father Shiv Kumar is a hardware businessman in Gaya, Bihar, while his mother Kanchan Devi is a homemaker.

A self-imposed social media ban and use of the phone only to connect to his parents and teachers also held him in good stead, Shubham said, adding he would devote 8-10 hours to study in a day and could indulge in his hobbies of cricket and badminton only on Sundays.

Kabeer, who missed the top rank by one mark, said he would never take stress over papers or studies. "I never use social media. I have WhatsApp and Instagram but only to connect with faculties and friends for subject discussion," said Kabeer.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

THE BOSS JUMPED ALL OVER ME FOR CHECKING ON THE OLYMPICS RESULTS ON MY COMPUTER ALL DAY
YOU'D THINK I WASN'T KEEPING UP WITH MY WORKLOAD THE WAY HE WAS CARRYING ON
DID YOU SHOW HIM YOU COULD DO BOTH THINGS AT ONCE?
OH, PLEASE! OBVIOUSLY THERE WAS NO WAY I COULD DO BOTH THINGS AT ONCE!!

Hagar The Horrible

I'M GOING OUT FOR DINNER WITH THE JURY I SERVED ON! WE UNANIMOUSLY AGREED ON THE VERDICT!
UNFORTUNATELY, WE CAN'T AGREE ON THE FOOD!
SEAFOOD! STEAK! PIZZA! FRENCH! CHINESE! VEGAN!

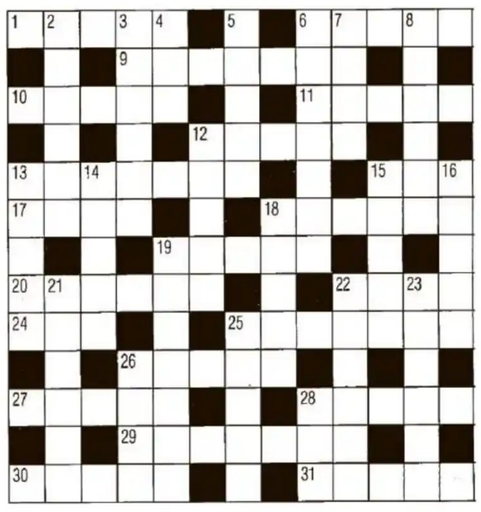
Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

I HAVE THE FEELING THAT THIS IS GOING TO BE A GOOD YEAR
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SO?
I DON'T KNOW... IT JUST HAS ALL THE APPEARANCES OF BEING A GOOD YEAR
HAVE YOU LOOKED IN THE CORNERS?

Marvin

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12429



CRYPTIC

ACROSS
1 The typist's room naturally has a bar (5)
6 Boringly regular procedure? (5)
9 Available for purchase, but not at present (2,5)
10 Loving to have a bit of fun, as discovered (5)
11 You can write it if you try (5)
12 The wind's high, confound it! (5)
13 He's not particular who he orders about (7)
15 That seedy Dickens character (3)
17 Going astray, he'll roam (4)
18 A queenly word about a woman (6)
19 Don conceals them, the devil! (5)
20 Bagged some loot? (6)
22 A word of warning (4)
24 Lovely part of Cambridgeshire (3)
25 Showing exceptional potential in males, perhaps (7)
26 Holds up certain cards (5)
27 See the point of a strange title (3,2)
28 A desire breathily voiced (5)
29 Soldiers losing out around a key centre? (7)
30 Ecclesiastical clangers? (5)
31 Carelessly shut about a fifth of the doors, with noise! (5)

DOWN
2 Tore around during the afternoon, obviously not for ever! (3,3)
3 Kind of track possibly followed by Ella (6)
4 Finish up in Harpenden (3)
5 Stop running a small business (5)
6 Finding the place strange, maybe reddens (7)
7 Sleep on the snooker table? (4)
8 Introductory denial, possibly (4-2)
12 Made some lakes in one's rest time? (5)
13 The silly thing goes mad about nothing! (5)
14 A woman's place (5)
15 Has a point but maybe no tip (5)
16 Sort of game that means all to the Spanish? (5)
18 Flowers for a girl starting school? (5)
19 Discusses taking notes during appointments (7)
21 Claim that might be legal for middle-men (6)
22 Fishin', strangely enough, does have an end! (6)
23 Bad way to have organised a police department (6)
25 Hank's geese (5)
26 She makes jack initially sick (4)
28 Hill dweller - a six footer? (3)

ACROSS
1 Rot (5)
6 A set-to (5)
9 Ardour (7)
10 Derision (5)
11 Quick, informally (5)
12 Cuts into cubes (5)
13 Visual (7)
15 Father (3)
17 Peruse writing (4)
18 Salty (6)
19 Sullen or angry frown (5)
20 Congenital (6)
22 Superlative of good (4)
24 Toddler (3)
25 Greek restaurant (7)
26 Swagger (5)
27 Flying toys (5)
28 Remembrance flower (5)
29 Small amount or portion (7)
30 Start (5)
31 Nervy (5)

DOWN
2 Get away (6)
3 Frightened (6)
4 Monetary unit (3)
5 Be of use (5)
6 Burial or cremation (7)
7 Plant (4)
8 Hired assassin (6)
12 Move to music (5)
13 Planet's path (5)
14 Tease (5)
15 Frogman (5)
16 Greek letter (5)
18 Perspire (5)
19 Cowboy hat (7)
21 Act of perceiving (6)
22 Develop into (6)
23 Wading birds (6)
25 Spring bulb (5)
26 House type (4)
28 To place (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12428

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 3, Areas 8, Robot 10, Sugar 11, Cor 12, Parts 13, Chattel. 15, Razor(-bill) 18, Ran 19, Banana 21, Mars-Hal 22, Clay 23, Pro-p 24, M-OV-able 26, O-Reg-on 29, Mia 31, Tired 32, Bags-hot 34, T-U-bes 35, Tub(-es) 36, Ghoul 37, Reg-is 38, Pests.
DOWN: 1, Moc-h-a 2, Port-ray 4, Real 5, Astral 6, S-USA-N 7, Cap-on 9, Boa 12, Pension 14, Tar 16, Z-air-e 17, Ramps 19, Bahamas 20, Sc-O-ot 21, Mater 23, Plaster 24, M-odule 25, Big(- amy) 27, Right 28, Get-up 30, Robin 32, Bert 33, Hug.
EASY
ACROSS: 3, Broad 8, Baton 10, Cabin 11, Gun 12, Debut 13, Debates 15, Merit 18, Gas 19, Reduce 21, Contain 22, Corn 23, Memo 24, Toddles 26, Off-key 29, Lid 31, Rotor 32, Retires 34, Aries 35, Cat 36, Cello 37, Panto 38, Aroma.
DOWN: 1, Bagel 2, Nonagon 4, Rues 5, Acumen 6, Dated 7, Mimic 9, Tub 12, Destroy 14, Tan 16, Rules 17, Tenor 19, Riddles 20, Actor 21, Craft 23, Medical 24, Terror 25, Lit 27, Foyer 28, Koala 30, Jetty 32, Ream 33, Ran.

◆ SU-DO-KU-6921 ◆

		3	5	8				1
		7						
						5	6	4
	1					7	3	5
7				3				6
5	3	9					8	
4	6	8						
						6		
9				1	4	8		

medium

SOLUTION TO 6920

8	4	5	7	3	6	1	9	2
7	2	6	8	1	9	4	5	3
3	1	9	5	4	2	8	7	6
9	5	2	1	6	3	7	4	8
4	7	8	2	9	5	6	3	1
6	3	1	4	8	7	9	2	5
2	9	7	6	5	1	3	8	4
5	6	4	3	7	8	2	1	9
1	8	3	9	2	4	5	6	7

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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								RACK 1
T1	L1	E1	P3	D2	A1	E1	2nd Letter Double	
								RACK 2
I1	A1	S1	R1	P3	H4	E1		
								RACK 3
U1	A1	L1	P3	S1	C3	N1	Double Word Score	
								RACK 4
S1	L1	L1	I1	Y4	U1	O1		

PAR SCORE 165-175
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

P3 U1 R1 P3 O1 S1 E1	RACK 1 =	63
L1 A1 S1 S1 O1 S1	RACK 2 =	6
L1 E1 M3 O1 N1 Y4	RACK 3 =	22
A1 C3 C3 O1 S1 T1 S1	RACK 4 =	83
PAR SCORE 115-125	JUDD'S TOTAL	174

JUMBLE®

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

FNYIT
CIPER
RTMKAE
NISAOC

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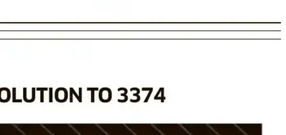
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Today's Guest JUMBLER is JOHN KOVALESKI creator of DADDY DAZE



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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

( ) . " ( ) "

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PUTTY WHARF PRANCE DAMAGE
Answer: Unable to perform the perfect drum solo, the toddler — THREW A "PANTRUM"

HITORI-3375

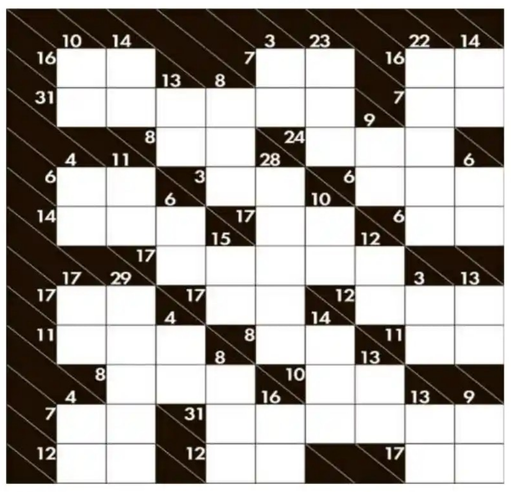
2	2	3	8	4	7	2	6
7	8	5	6	3	1	3	4
3	6	3	2	7	3	1	1
6	3	1	3	8	4	7	2
5	5	3	3	1	7	6	3
8	2	7	4	5	3	2	1
1	3	1	5	4	2	8	7
3	4	6	7	2	5	3	8

SOLUTION TO 3374

8	5	2	■	4	7	3	■
■	8	3	2	■	1	■	6
2	■	5	■	3	8	1	4
1	2	6	7	5	4	■	3
4	■	8	1	■	6	5	■
■	3	1	■	6	2	■	7
5	7	4	6	2	3	8	1
■	6	7	■	1	■	2	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3375



SOLUTION TO 3374

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3934

9	4							6
	■				1		■	
3		6				■	9	
		5	■		■	1	7	
				■		2		
2	7		■		■	4		
5		■	6			■		
	■	1	8	4			2	
■	6							■

SOLUTION TO 3933

5	4	9	7	2	6	3	1	8
8	7	1	4	9	3	6	2	5
2	3	6	1	5	8	4	9	7
6	2	8	9	7	5	1	3	4
1	5	4	8	3	2	9	7	6
7	9	3	6	1	4	8	5	2
3	8	7	5	4	1	2	6	9
4	1	5	2	6	9	7	8	3
9	6	2	3	8	7	5	4	1

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Indian worker wins UK wage tribunal case

LONDON, PTI: An Indian care worker who came to the UK "ready, able and willing" to work has won more than 28,000 pounds in lost wages and holiday pay after a tribunal found that his sponsoring company failed to provide him with work.

Shabin Shaji, 33, arrived in the country through the Health and Care Worker visa route and had acquired the required certificate of sponsorship from Swan Care Solutions Ltd for a job placement in the healthcare sector. He told an employment tribunal in Birmingham recently that the sponsor never provided him with work or paid him, which amounted to an unauthorised deduction from wages.

"It is for the claimant (Shaji) to show that there were wages properly payable to him which were not paid. I have found that the claimant was employed from April 15, 2023, to April 21, 2024. I have found that this was based on a 40-hour working week with a gross salary of 22,880 pounds per annum," Employment Judge Edmonds concluded.

"During that period, the claimant was ready, willing and able to perform his duties, and the only reason he did not do so was because the respondent did not provide him with work," the judge noted.

US bombs Iranian military sites; Kuwait hit by drone, missile fire

Tensions escalate after fresh strikes

DUBAI, AP/PTI

The United States said Monday that it bombed radar and drone sites in Iran after Tehran shot down an American drone over the weekend. Iran then said it launched a strike of its own, and Kuwait reported incoming fire.

The nominal ceasefire between Iran and the US has been repeatedly tested with such back-and-forth attacks, even as officials from both countries try to negotiate an end to the war. It's not clear how close they are to a deal — and there is always the risk that an attack could derail those talks.

In the meantime, Iran has maintained its chokehold on the Strait of Hormuz, disrupting global energy supplies and driving up fuel prices around the world, with far-reaching consequences. Fighting has also escalated between Israel and the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah, despite their nominal ceasefire. Israel has extended its occupation deep into Lebanon, and Hezbollah — which joined the war in support of its main backer, Iran — continues to launch drones into Israel. The US military's Central Command said it carried out the strikes in Iran on Saturday and Sunday around the city of Geruk and on Qeshm Island.

Iranians relax on Suru Beach in Bandar Abbas along the Strait of Hormuz on Monday. AFP

"The measured and deliberate strikes occurred ... in response to aggressive Iranian actions that included the shootdown of a US MQ-1 drone that was operating over international waters," Central Command said. "US fighter aircraft swiftly responded by eliminating Iranian air defences, a ground control station, and two one-way attack drones that posed clear threats to ships transiting regional waters."

Kuwait said its air defences opened fire early Monday morning to intercept incoming drone and missile fire.

Around the same time, Iran's Revolutionary Guard said it responded to an American attack without saying where, likely referring to the attack on Kuwait. The Guard said that US forces had targeted a telecommunications mast.

Kuwait is home to US Army Central, the West Asia forward command for the Army. While the US Air Force no longer flies the MQ-1 Predator, the US Army still does. Iranian state television later shared footage of the ballistic missile launch, including a close-up showing a sticker on its body depicting a bruised US President Donald Trump overlaid on a "closed" Strait of Hormuz with the caption: "Until the last American soldier leaves the region."

US forces guided 70 ships through Hormuz: Report

WASHINGTON, PTI: US armed forces have guided around 70 commercial ships through the Strait of Hormuz over the past three weeks, a media report said, as the waterway remains risky more than three months after the US war with Iran began.

US Central Command has guided about 70 commercial vessels travelling into and out of the Gulf through the strait during the period, The New York Times reported, citing US officials. The officials said most of the vessels turned off their transponders to avoid detection while passing through the narrow waterway.

Before the war broke out on February 28, over 100 commercial ships transited Hormuz each day. The strait, bordered by Iran and Oman, serves as the route for about 20% of global oil supplies. The officials declined to specify the types of vessels involved or the routes they used, though one official indicated that at least one route did not pass close to the Iranian coastline.

WORLD AT A GLANCE

A man takes part in a protest against a US-backed Ebola quarantine plan for a 50-bed facility at a Kenyan air force base in Nanyuki on Monday. REUTERS

Congo's Ebola cases near 300 as outbreak hits eastern province

▸ At least 282 cases of Ebola have been confirmed in Congo's growing outbreak, the central African nation said, AP/PTI reports from Bunia.

The outbreak remains concentrated in eastern Ituri province, where 264 cases have been confirmed, the health ministry said. Congo has reported more than 1,000 suspected cases of the Bundibugyo virus, the species of Ebola that was confirmed weeks after the outbreak quietly began. The outbreak has spread to 22 health zones across three eastern provinces, government data showed, even as the World Health Organization highlighted signs of progress, including new deliveries of supplies to under-resourced health centres. Congo's health ministry said the main challenges in containing the outbreak in the remote region include early detection and rapid isolation of cases, rigorous contact tracing, safe and dignified burials, and strengthening infection prevention and control in health facilities. Meanwhile, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations said Monday it would commit up to USD 62 million to accelerate the development of three experimental vaccines targeting Bundibugyo.

5 die in South Korea factory blast

▸ An explosion and fire occurred at a defence company in South Korea on Monday, killing five people and injuring two others, AP/PTI reports from Seoul.

The deadly incident happened at a worksite operated by Hanwha Aerospace in the South Korean city of Daejeon. Other details, including the cause of the explosion, were not immediately available. Emergency official Yoon Seong-su said the area is a government-designated security facility. Local medical official Kim Ju-yeon said one of the two injured people was in a critical condition. She said authorities had not yet identified those who died. The site is one of Hanwha Aerospace's key facilities, where it develops large-sized propellants and surface-to-surface weapons systems, according to Yonhap news agency.

A protester holds a placard reading "Say their names" during a protest against an alarming rise in femicide cases, in Nairobi on Monday. AFP

6 revellers killed in Sri Lanka

▸ At least six people were killed and 13 others injured after a pickup truck driven by an allegedly intoxicated motorist rammed into a queue of revellers celebrating the Buddhist festival of Wesak on the outskirts of Sri Lanka's capital, PTI reports from Colombo.

The accident occurred on Sunday night when the vehicle ploughed into people waiting at a roadside food stall set up as part of the annual Wesak celebrations in Meegoda, a suburb of Colombo. Three men aged between 35 and 38 years and three females aged between 15 and 56 years died in the accident, police said, adding that 13 others, including an infant, sustained serious injuries and were admitted to hospital. Police said the 42-year-old driver fled the scene after the crash but was later arrested.

Rwanda loses UK migrant case

▸ A panel of international arbitrators has rejected a multimillion-dollar claim by Rwanda against the United Kingdom linked to a migrant relocation deal that Prime Minister Keir Starmer scrapped immediately after taking office in 2024, AP/PTI reports from The Hague.

The deal, struck in 2022 by Starmer's predecessor, Rishi Sunak, involved sending migrants who arrived in the UK as stowaways or in small boats to the East African nation. It included payments to Rwanda to help cover the costs of the programme. At the time the deal was scrapped, Home Secretary Yvette Cooper described it as "the most shocking waste of taxpayer money I have ever seen".

Villagers catch offerings released by Hindu devotees of the Tengger community into the crater of Mt Bromo during the Yadnya Kasada festival near Probolinggo, East Java province on Monday. AFP

Israel, Hezbollah have agreed to dial back fighting: Trump

Israeli troops will not be entering Beirut, says US president

BEIRUT, AP/PTI

President Donald Trump said on Monday that Israel and Hezbollah have agreed to dial back fighting after he held talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and communicated with the Lebanon-based militant group through mediators.

Trump announced the development in a social media post following his call with Netanyahu.

Following the call, Trump said: "There will be no troops going to Beirut, and any troops that are on their way have already been turned back." The president said Hezbollah had "agreed that all shooting will stop — that Israel will not attack them, and they will not attack Israel".

His comments emerged hours after Israel's government ordered strikes on the southern suburbs of Beirut, a day after its ground forces reached their deepest point in Lebanon in 26 years and as Hezbollah fired rockets at northern Israel, including the outskirts of the coastal city of Haifa.

A joint statement by Netanyahu and Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said the orders to attack targets in Beirut's southern suburbs followed what they called repeated violations of the ceasefire by Hezbollah and "attacks against our cities and citizens".

The Israeli military's Arabic-language spokesman later posted on X that residents should leave the suburbs, adding that if Hezbollah continues attacking Israeli communities, Israel will launch attacks on the area known in Arabic as Dahiyeh, where Hezbollah enjoys wide support.

Hezbollah agreed to halt attacks on Israel when the ceasefire was signed in mid-April, but the militant group resumed the assaults after Israeli strikes in Lebanon that Israel characterised as self-defence. The fighting also presents a major obstacle to the emerging deal to extend the ceasefire in the Iran war. Tehran wants any agreement to include Lebanon.

Starmer faces fresh pressure over Mandelson files

LONDON, AP/PTI: British Prime Minister Keir Starmer faces more embarrassment on Monday with the publication of hundreds of pages of files about former UK ambassador to Washington Peter Mandelson, a friend of convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

The government is expected to comply with a demand by lawmakers to release documents related to Mandelson's appointment to, and conduct in, the UK's most important diplomatic post. Mandelson was fired after nine months, and fallout from the misjudged appointment has left Starmer fighting for his job. A first trove of files published in March revealed ministers had been warned that Mandelson's friendship with Epstein exposed the government to "reputational risk".

It later was disclosed that Mandelson had been approved for the ambassador's job despite failing security checks, a revelation that sparked bitter blame-trading between Starmer and senior civil servants. The files being released Monday could run to more than 1,000 pages and are expected to include emails and text messages between Mandelson and government ministers and advisers.

France intercepts sanctioned tanker from Russia

PARIS, AP/PTI

The French Navy, with support from the United Kingdom, has intercepted an oil tanker under international sanctions that was travelling from Russia, the latest effort by countries backing Ukraine to target Russian oil exports that help finance President Vladimir Putin's war.

French President Emmanuel Macron announced the interception in a post on X on Monday, saying the Tagor was boarded on Sunday in the Atlantic Ocean. The post included a video showing a person rappelling from a helicopter onto the vessel. It is the latest in a series of French naval interceptions of tankers suspected of links to Russia.

"It is unacceptable that boats skirt international sanctions, violate the law of the sea and finance the war that Russia has been waging for more than four years against Ukraine," Macron wrote.

"These ships, that don't respect the most elementary rules of maritime navigation, are also a threat to the environment and everyone's security."

Oil revenue remains a key part of Russia's economy, allowing Putin to fund the war effort in Ukraine without significantly worsening inflation or risking a currency collapse.

Responding to the latest French interception, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Russia considered such actions illegal. "They border on piracy," he said. "We absolutely disagree that they are being carried out in full compliance with international law."

US to slash number of embassies in Africa that can process visas

WASHINGTON, AP/PTI: The State Department plans to drastically slash the number of US embassies and consulates in Africa that can process visas for foreigners seeking to come to the United States.

The almost 50 US embassies and consulates that are processing visa applications will be reduced to 20 in the coming weeks, according to three US officials and an internal memo obtained by The Associated Press.

Search on for another route to reach 2 trapped in Laos cave

BANGKOK, AP/PTI: Rescue workers in Laos searched Monday for an alternative passage into a flooded cave where two people are believed to have been trapped for nearly two weeks after heavy rainfall flooded the main entrance, making it impassable.

The two people have remained unaccounted for since the search and rescue operation began last month in a rugged area of Xaisomboun province, about 120 km north of the capital, Vientiane. Five of the seven people initially trapped inside the cave have been rescued. Malaysian diver Lee Kian Lie, who is involved in the operation, said workers were pumping water out of the cave. "We will go into the suspected area to continue the search," he said.

Egypt unveils ancient artifacts

CAIRO, AP/PTI: Archaeologists unearthed a set of ancient artifacts in Egypt including Pharaonic funerary furniture, remains of a Roman basilica and a marble head of Aphrodite, the ancient Greek goddess of love and beauty.

The discoveries, announced on Sunday, are part of the Egyptian government's efforts to boost the country's tourism industry and bring cash to the troubled economy.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE,
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC), Plot No.12 & 13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560 058. Fax:080-28094180 Ph:080-28094196, 4184, 4541, 4542

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

1. On behalf of President of India, **item rate E-Tenders** are invited from Contractors of appropriate class for the following works

Sl. No.	NIT No.	ISTRAC/CMG/MAINT/C/ETN-21/ 2026-27 Dated: 01.06.2026	ISTRAC/CMG/MAINT/C/ETN-33/ 2026-27 Dated:01.06.2026
1	Name of Work	**Refurbishment of Senior administrative office, GSNA Lab (opposite to BGS) and replacement of windows of west side of central block & MSA building at SCC campus, ISTRAC, Bengaluru (Civil Interior Works)**	**Annual Service Contract for Providing Pest & Rodent control measures in DOS Housing colonies at Jalahalli, RPC Layout & Anthariksh Apartment, Malleswaram, Bengaluru**
2	Estimated cost put to tender	**Rs. 24.97 Lakhs**	**Rs. 8.53 Lakhs**
3	Tender Document details	**E-Tender**	**E-Tender**
4	Period of completion	**04 (Four) Months**	**12 (Twelve) Months (Department reserves the right to extend the contract for a further period of 24 months)**
5	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	**From 14.30 hrs on 02.06.2026 to 16.30 hrs. on 16.06.2026**	**From 14.30 hrs on 02.06.2026 to 16.30 hrs. on 11.06.2026**
6	Bid clarification	**From 15.30 hrs on 02.06.2026 to 16.30 hrs. on 17.06.2026**	**From 15.30 hrs on 02.06.2026 to 16.30 hrs. on 12.06.2026**
7	Last date and time of reply to Bid clarification	**Up to 16.30 hrs on 18.06.2026**	**Up to 16.30 hrs on 15.06.2026**
8	Last date & time of receipt of tenders	**Up to 14.30 hrs on 19.06.2026**	**Up to 14.30 hrs on 16.06.2026**
9	Due date and time of opening of tenders	**11.30 hrs onwards 22.06.2026**	**11.30 hrs onwards 17.06.2026**
10	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 49,940/-**	**Rs. 17,060/-**

2. For eligibility criteria and other details, interested tenderers may please refer to the detaild bilingual (Hindi-English) Notice Inviting Tenders (NIT) on the website:**www.isro.gov.in/Tenders.html** and tender free view at **https://www.tenderwizard.com/isro.**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
No. B/C.565/STBA-NSG-4&5/2026 Dated: 27.05.2026
CORRIGENDUM-I
Sub: Notification of period of contract for STBA at Hosur (HSRA) station
Ref: This office notification dated 08.05.2026
Applications were invited for engagement of STBA at NSG-4 Category - HSRA station vide notification dated 08.05.2026. The period of contract for the STBA at NSG-4 category Hosur station will be upto 20.05.2027. The period of contract will be extended further based on the policy guidelines received from Railway Board. The period of contract of NSG-5 category Dharmapuri Station is 3 years only.
PUB/173/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2026-27 **Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Bengaluru**
Download the **RailOne** app for easy ticket booking, PNR status, and more railway services.
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

संस्कृति मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
सत्यमेव जयते

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EoI)
Engagement of Content Development Experts
Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum (YYBM), New Delhi

The Ministry of Culture, Government of India, invites Expressions of Interest (EoI) from eligible professionals for engagement as Content Development Experts for the Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum (YYBM), New Delhi, a flagship national initiative.

Positions
- Content Director (01)
- Associate Content Director (02)
- Content Researchers (07)
- Young Museum Professionals (05)

Detailed EOI, eligibility criteria, application format, and other terms & conditions are available on the Ministry of Culture website www.culture.gov.in.

How to Apply
Interested candidates may submit their applications in the prescribed format along with supporting documents to:
Email: yybm-culture@gov.in
Last Date for Submission: 19 June 2026 (Friday), 3:00 PM

The Ministry of Culture reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning any reason.

CBC 09101/11/0013/2627

EASTERN RAILWAY
Open Tender Notice No. 22-SDSTE-ASN-2026-27, dated 29.05.2026. e-Tender is invited by Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Eastern Railway, Asansol Division, Station Road, Asansol, Pin-713301 for the following work : **Name of Work / Location** : "Asansol Division - Replacement of defective Quad cable in Asansol Division". **Tender Value:** ₹ 2,80,68,947.99. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 5,61,400/-. **Completion period of the work** : 18 months from the date of issue of LOA. **Date & Time of Closing of the tender :** 22.06.2026 at 14.00 hrs. **Website Particulars : http://www.ireps.gov.in/** (ASN-120/2026-27)
Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in
Follow us at : @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER
E-Tender Notice No. : M-24-QWS-RNC-HTE-85, dated : 29.05.2026. e-Tender is invited by Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer, S.E.Railway, Ranchi-834003 for and on behalf of the President of India for the following work : **Name of work :** Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Testing of Quick Watering Arrangements System at Ranchi and Hatia Railway Stations. **Approx. cost of work (inclusive of GST) :** ₹ 4,97,40,950.41. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 9,94,800/-. **Date and time for closing of e-tender :** 23.06.2026 at 15.00 hrs. **Website particulars and details : www.ireps.gov.in** **(PR-256)**

Making teaching more interesting

RADHIKA D SHYAM

Not all children are academically inclined or studious enough to ace their exams. Our education system is overly dependent on the rote method, which requires retention and instant recall. Some street-smart children who might be good at math, mental calculations, and other life skills might lack verbal expression and communication skills and therefore fall short overall.

Then there are those with short attention spans or slow comprehension. Such children lag behind not just in the academic rat race but also in self-esteem. Early remedial teaching that includes creative memory-enhancing tools will go a long way toward giving these students the much-needed boost in their performance, scores, and confidence — all of which are so important in their formative years of formal education.

These children need constant tapping into their potential and personalised coaching by parents and tutors — ideally one-on-one initially, and later in small, manageable groups that foster a healthy competitive spirit and drive to fare better than others.

The methodology can be made more engaging by using creative visual-associative methods and expressive art forms, such as drama, song, recitation, and drawing. A discussion of the same, with a few apt examples, will shed more light on this .

- **Storytelling:** Tiny tales woven around the course material help not only make it more interesting but also facilitate easier retention and recall. For instance, while teaching the skeletal system, 'Femur is our tallest friend in Thailand' sounds more interesting than — the thigh bone is called Femur and is the longest bone in our body: or likewise, 'We need our wrist to turn the steering wheel to drive a car, and hence the wrist bone being car-friendly is called carpal'.
- **Drawing/doodling:** Associative doodling or sketching while teaching is definitely effective, as illustrations and figures are remembered more than a multitude of words. Hindi was a totally new option as a third language for a student. He picked up the number of 10 birds in Hindi in less than 10 minutes, when his teacher used this art form while teaching them, like drawing the shape of a peacock with the letters M O R and that of the swan with the letters H A N S (both being the names of the respective birds in Hindi). He will probably remember them for the rest of his life.
- **Dramatics:** A little drama with actions or recitation while learning long answers eases memorising and recall. Adding a rhyme scheme and/or setting a complicated answer/lesson to tune introduces an element of fun to the whole teaching and learning process. Innovative teachers have effectively used this format to even teach algebraic and chemical formulae.
- **Forming codes:** a code with the first letters of multiple points or key words in any subject has proved to be helpful; the most common example of this being the one formed to remember the names and order of the planets: My Very Educated Mother Just Served Us Noodles; where the first letter of each word in the sentence stands for Mercury, Venus Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.
- **Activities:** For example, making small labels on sticky pads with the names of different bones in our body or parts of a plant, and asking the students to stick these in the right place on their own bodies or on plants or cut-outs of either; such activities make learning an enjoyable experience that aids long-term memory.
- **Audio aids:** Recordings of answers read aloud clearly, either by the teacher or by the students themselves, with repeated listening to these recordings that builds familiarity and accelerates learning. Mathematics, of course, can be improved only by working out a daily dose of sums — the more, the better. A regular check on the consistency of their work should take care of this subject, and the many tools available to teach calculating mentally make it really easy to score in this subject.

Teachers can ensure that students enjoy the entire learning process and do not stress themselves. A little individual attention to such students, helping them understand basic and complex concepts, will ease the challenges they face while studying their extensive portions. These methods work and can do wonders, mostly at the primary — grassroots level and the middle school stage, by which time the foundation is strong enough to enable students to tackle higher classes head-on.

Parenting Calendar: A cultural shift or a well-written document?

Schools are asked to become centres of emotional support, behavioural guidance and parenting awareness while still functioning in a competitive academic structure, writes Darshan B M

AI-GENERATED IMAGE, FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

The Central Board of Secondary Education's (CBSE) newly launched Parenting Calendarfor the academic year 2026–27 arrives at a time when students and schools are increasingly confronting issues that go beyond academics, including student stress, screen addiction, behavioural concerns, social isolation and mental health challenges.

The framework proposes structured engagement between parents and schools through workshops, counselling sessions, developmental guidance and regular interactions across different age groups. While educators and parents acknowledge the intent behind the initiative, questions remain over how effectively schools can implement such an ambitious framework within already stretched educational systems.

The calendarreflects a broader shift in school education, in which emotional well-being and life skills are gaining importance alongside examination performance. It encourages parents to engage more actively in areas such as mental health, digital safety, emotional regulation, adolescent behaviour and inclusive education.

Can schools move beyond pressure?

One of the central ideas of the Parenting Calendaris to move away from marks-centric parenting and encourage a more holistic understanding of success. The document repeatedly highlights empathy, communication, emotional resilience and creativity as equally important aspects of learning.

Yet many parents argue that the Indian education system itself continues to reward marks, rankings and competitive performance.

"Parents are constantly told not to pressure children, but academic competition begins much earlier now," says Kusuma Prashanth, parent of a Class 7 student in Davanagere. "Schools speak about emotional well-being, yet many students are already under pressure to perform and prepare for the future."

This contradiction may become one of the biggest challenges in implementing the Parenting Calendarmeaningfully. Behavioural change cannot happen through workshops alone unless assessment systems and school cultures also evolve.

Increased engagement or additional burden?

The Parenting Calendarrecommends regular parent-teacher meetings, counselling interactions, peer discussions, orientation sessions and workshops throughout the academic year. In theory, this could create stronger communication between families and schools.

But many working parents have practical problems. "In urban nuclear families, both parents are often working. Attending multiple school workshops and developmental sessions may not be practical for everyone," says Kusuma.

"There is a risk of participation becoming limited to a small section of highly involved parents, while others may feel excluded or judged. Some of my friends and relatives from rural backgrounds whose children study in CBSE schools may also find it difficult to fully understand or follow the Parenting Calendarbecause of their lower educational qualifications."

Teachers, too, are already handling heavy workloads involving academics, documentation, examinations and administrative responsibilities. Adding regular parenting engagement activities may place additional pressure on schools unless adequate support systems are created. Several educators note that schools in metropolitan cities may have counsellors and trained staff to implement such initiatives, but smaller schools and semi-urban institutions could face resource constraints.

Mental health gains importance

Despite the implementation challenges, many educators view the Parenting Calendaras a positive acknowledgement of the emotional pressures children face today.

The framework gives considerable attention to anxiety, stress, emotional regulation, peer pressure and behavioural changes among students. It also promotes "discipline with empathy" instead of fear-based parenting.

"This is perhaps one of the strongest aspects of the calendar," says psychologist Dr Deepa Kothari, based in Mangaluru. "Indian parenting has traditionally focused heavily on achievement and obedience. Even recognising mental health and emotional expression in school discussions is an important cultural shift. The CBSE Parenting Calendaralso focuses on bringing psychological awareness to parents, which is the need of the hour."

Parents are encouraged to identify early signs of emotional distress and maintain open communication with children. The framework also recommends engaging with counsellors and school-based support systems. Mental health experts caution that awareness alone is not enough. Many schools still lack professionally trained counsellors, and conversations around therapy and emotional support continue to carry social stigma in several communities.

Digital safety

The Parenting Calendaralso addresses growing concerns around screen exposure, gaming addiction, cyberbullying and social media use among children and adolescents.

Instead of recommending complete restrictions, the framework advises parents to develop trust-based communication and digital literacy practices. For younger children, it suggests limiting screen exposure and encouraging physical play and face-to-face interaction.

Many parents welcome this approach, especially after the pandemic years significantly increased children's dependence on devices.

"Earlier, screen time was mostly entertainment. Now even homework, classes and social interaction happen online," says Priya Menon, a parent based in Bengaluru. "Parents themselves are confused about where to draw boundaries."

Yet digital regulation may become one of the most difficult aspects of implementation because many parents themselves struggle with excessive screen dependence and work-related digital routines.

Inclusion and parenting realities

Parenting Calendarfocuses on inclusion and support for children with special needs through regular coordination among parents, teachers, and special educators, as well as peer support systems and transition planning.

Educationists say this is a welcome move, particularly because many parents of children with learning disabilities often feel isolated within mainstream schooling systems.

At the same time, not all schools have adequate infrastructure and trained professionals required to deliver meaningful inclusive support. Educationists argue that inclusion cannot remain merely a policy term and requires trained educators, smaller class sizes, counselling support, and long-term institutional commitment. The CBSE Parenting Calendarsignals an important shift in how Indian schools should approach education. It recognises that children's emotional well-being, social experiences and family environments significantly influence learning outcomes.

But experts fear that the initiative could become another bureaucratic exercise, involving attendance sheets and formal workshops, without broader institutional change.

The larger challenge lies in balancing aspirations with realities. Schools are being asked to become centres of emotional support, behavioural guidance and parenting awareness while still functioning within highly competitive academic structures.

The Parenting Calendarhas initiated an important conversation. Whether the initiative transforms school culture or remains a well-intentioned document will largely depend on how stakeholders translate these ideas into everyday practice.

(The author is an assistant professor at a Bengaluru-based university)

(Check the calendar: https://t.ly/Qgg3J)

BULLETIN BOARD

Admissions open

The Chennai campus of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), an Institution of National Importance under the Ministry of Home Affairs, has invited applications for its undergraduate, postgraduate and diploma programmes for 2026–27. Programmes include B.Sc. Criminology and Forensic Science, M.Sc. Forensic Science, M.Sc. Cyber Security, and a postgraduate diploma in Crime Scene Management. Last date: June 10, 2026. Details and application: https://t.ly/wBtwO

Data research executive

Tradepass is hiring a data research executive intern in Bengaluru. Students with knowledge of HubSpot and MS Excel, and effective communication skills, can apply by June 25. The stipend is Rs 10,000-12,000 /month. Apply at: internshala.com/i/c310fb.

Video editing/making

SubSpace is hiring a video editing/making intern in Bengaluru. Students with knowledge of Adobe Premiere Pro and Video Making can apply by June 25. The stipend is Rs 20,001-35,000 /month. Apply at: internshala.com/i/705e7c.

Business development executive

Across The Globe (ATG) is hiring a business development executive intern who can work from home. Students proficient in spoken English, LinkedIn Marketing, and MS Excel can apply by June 25. The stipend is Rs 1,500-5,000 / month. Apply at: internshala.com/i/9cd868.

Perks of good listening

APARNA BHAT

It was a hectic day at the top-level of a company. The conference room was unusually tense. Managers rushed with preparations for the final strategy meeting — a major product launch was only days away. Seated at the head of the table, Nisha, a veteran manager with a strategic mind and frequently criticised for her impatient communication style, was looking around. The presentation slides were ready, the marketing budgets were approved, and the launch campaign was already in motion.

Just as the discussion was about to conclude, Ronald, one of the team members, leaned forward hesitantly.

"I think we may have overlooked something important about the product's market readiness," he began. Lost in her own thoughts, Nisha cut him off to continue the conversation about the promotional campaign. The meeting ended soon after, and the team moved ahead with the launch.

In the weeks that followed, however, the launch started to fall apart, and the sales dropped. Later, everyone realised that Ronald had attempted to raise a critical concern about the product being market-ready, but it remained unheard.

This highlights a leadership skill that receives little attention: listening. Effective communication is a trait of a successful leader. But it usually centres on speaking persuasively rather than listening. However, the skill of active listening, when one can pay full attention, grasp and think, is what commonly distinguishes between the successful and the unsuccessful managers.

The leaders' active listening and team dynamics will both promote an environment where innovation can flourish. When employees feel heard, they have a better sense of belonging. They become more accommodating in sharing ideas, airing concerns, and engaging in group problem-solving. This transparency is crucial in organisations operating in a complex, dynamic environment.

Listening is much more than hearing. It is the ability to perceive what those words are saying, what their feelings are, and what their views are. An attentive manager builds psychological safety in a team where employees feel free to express their ideas without fear of being sacked. This is particularly significant in workplaces that value diversity.

Active listening is also important in making better decisions. Team members usually have expertise and information that a manager might not notice immediately. The more time leaders spend listening to such views, the more informed decisions are made, and the more the group's wisdom is incorporated. Unilateral decisions may cause resentment, disengagement and lack of trust.

Consider a project team developing a new software product. When a manager hears developers express doubts about the functionality of certain features, the project scope may be amended sooner. This kind of listening may help to avoid expensive delays, save unnecessary costs and empower employees whose skills are considered. The end result is usually a more viable and ready-to-market product.

Oftentimes, active listening is also critical in conflict resolution. When handled with empathetic listening, managers can turn conflicts into learning opportunities. Leaders create space for constructive dialogue by giving everyone the opportunity to present their opinions without interruption. This can improve working relationships among team members.

Little techniques with big impact

Most companies consider listening a methodical leadership skill rather than an individual character trait. For example, some promote two-minute listening in the workplace during meetings, where managers give employees an opportunity to express their thoughts to the end before speaking. Others also use listenback techniques, in which managers give a brief summary of what they have heard and then provide feedback. These little things show that management cares about employee feedback.

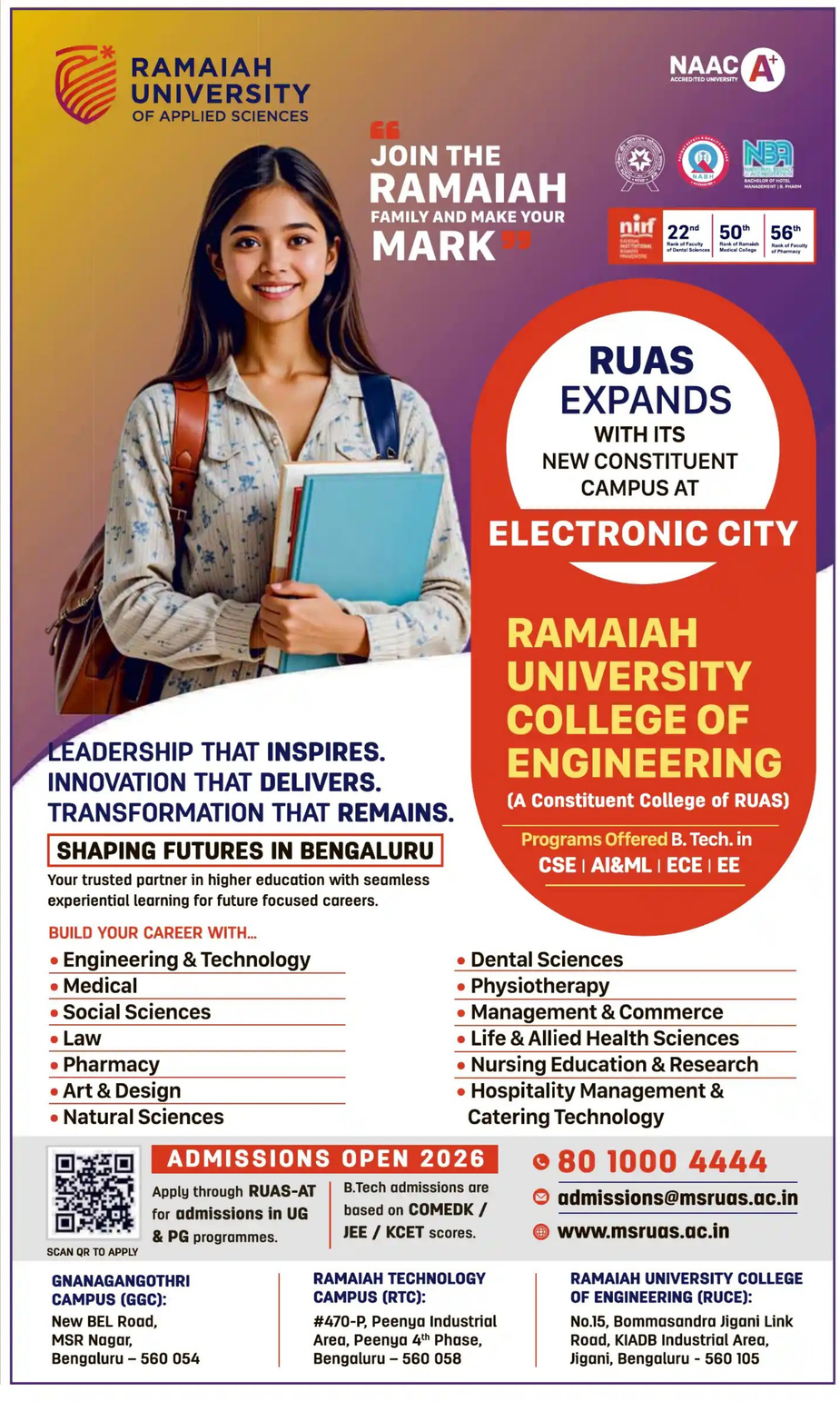
Some organisations are also reconfiguring meetings to incorporate structured listening rounds, in which all team members are called upon to share their views before significant decisions are made. This ensures that other voices, which are not as loud, are not left out of the conversation.

Listening is a leadership culture that has been institutionalised by a number of organisations worldwide. Toyota's management philosophy is that leaders must go to the root of a problem and listen to frontline staff before making a decision. Companies like Google have established forums where employees can ask questions and provide feedback to top management.

The modern-day digital workplace has also complicated listening. For remote and hybrid teams, managers also assess written communication, online meetings, and web-based collaboration tools in addition to verbal communication. Advocating for turn-taking during virtual meetings, recognising employee recommendations during online sessions, and providing visible feedback are helpful ways for leaders to show they listen, even in an online environment.

The most successful managers may not necessarily speak the loudest in an uncertain and fast-changing business environment, but they may open their ears as wide as possible.

(The author is an associate professor at a Bengaluru-based management institute)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Biz Bytes

Air India Express' new Phuket flight

BENGALURU, DHNS: Air India Express has commenced direct flight between Bengaluru and Phuket. The inaugural flight departed from Bengaluru on Monday, marking the launch of the new service and providing travellers with convenient access to the Thai island paradise, renowned for its beaches, nightlife, markets, and heritage, the airline said in a statement.

The launch expands Air India Express' footprint in Thailand, complementing the Bengaluru-Bangkok service introduced in October last year.

Canara Bank gets new MD & CEO

BENGALURU, DHNS: Canara Bank on Monday announced that Brajesh Kumar Singh has assumed charge as its MD and CEO. As per the Government of India notification dated May 30, 2026, his appointment will be effective until April 30, 2029 (the date of his superannuation) or until further orders, whichever is earlier. Prior to joining Canara Bank, Singh served as Executive Director of Indian Bank. He succeeds K Satyanarayana Raju, who completed his tenure as MD and CEO on December 31, 2025.

Puravankara forms JV for project in B'luru

NEW DELHI, PTI: Realty firm Puravankara Ltd has entered into an agreement with a landowner to develop a 11-acre housing project in Bengaluru with a revenue potential of Rs 1,100 crore.

In a filing on Monday, the company informed that it has signed a Joint Development Agreement (JDA) for an 11.23-acre land parcel in Doddagubbi, North Bengaluru, while Puravankara did not mention the landowner's name. Puravankara did not disclose investment details too.

ENHANCED ACCESS: Trade deal opens alternative route for India in Gulf beyond Hormuz

India-Oman CEPA comes into force

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and Oman, which was signed in December last year, came into force on Monday, paving the way for deeper trade and investment linkage between the two countries amid the ongoing West Asia crisis.

The deal offers duty-free access for 99.38% of India's exports to Oman by value, covering 98.08% of the latter's tariff lines, making it one of the most comprehensive market access outcomes secured by India in the Gulf region.

At the same time, it also opens new routes and ports for Indian exporters in the Gulf.

Oman's strategic logistics hubs at Sohar, Duqm and Salalah provide Indian exporters' enhanced access not only to Oman, but also to wider GCC and East African markets, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said in a statement.

Opening of a new logistics hub in the Gulf region is significant as the movements in the Strait of Hormuz remain disrupted.

Talking to reporters, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said the deal would benefit Indian exporters in sectors, such as textiles, leather, plastics, marine products, automobiles, sports goods, and agriculture.

"As we speak, more than 10 consignments are being shipped, availing preferential duty access in Oman from different parts of India," Goyal said.

To mark the operationalisation of the agreement, consignments availing preferential tariff benefits were flagged off from Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

Oman is India's second-largest trading partner in the Gulf region and serves as a strategic gateway to the wider GCC and East African markets through its advanced logistics and port infrastructure.

Bilateral trade between India and Oman stood at $11.18 billion in 2025-26.

Indian exports to Oman totalled about $4 billion in 2025-26, led by refined petroleum products such as petrol ($781 million) and naphtha ($746 million), followed by calcined alumina ($277 million), iron and steel products ($230 million), machinery ($178 million), and rice ($167 million).

Although more than 80% of Indian exports already entered Oman at relatively low average tariffs of around 5%, duties on certain products reached as high as 100%.

"Their elimination is expected to improve the competitiveness of Indian goods in the Omani market, though export growth will inevitably be constrained by the country's relatively small population and market size," said Ajay Srivastava, Founder, Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI).

Oman's gains are concentrated in sectors where it is already a major supplier to India—energy, fertilisers, and industrial raw materials. Under the agreement, India will eliminate or reduce tariffs on about 78% of its tariff lines.

FINER DETAILS OF THE DEAL

- **Duty-free** access for **99.38%** of Indian exports to Oman under the CEPA
- Over 10 export consignments have already been shipped under the pact's preferential tariff benefits

$11.18 bn bilateral trade set to grow as tariffs of up to **100%** are removed

Sohar, Duqm and **Salalah** boost access to GCC and East African markets

Key sectors, such as textiles, leather, plastics, autos, marine products, and agriculture, gain

Major points settled, India-US trade deal to be signed soon: Goyal

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

India and the US are likely to sign the first tranche of the bilateral trade agreement soon as the two sides have almost finalised the negotiations, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday.

"Most of the broader issues in the FTA finalised, as Sergio Gor (American Ambassador to India) recently said 99% of the deal is done, we are only negotiating small commas and full stop," Goyal told reporters.

"I am fully confident that we will conclude the first tranche of the bilateral trade agreement with the US as soon as possible," he added.

The minister's remarks come ahead of the chief negotiator-level talk on the proposed bilateral trade agreement between the two countries. The talks are scheduled from June 2-4 in New Delhi.

Piyush Goyal

Assistant US Trade Representative Brendan Lynch will lead the delegation from the US side, while Darpan Jain, an additional secretary in the Department of Commerce, is the chief negotiator from the Indian side.

Goyal informed that some members of the US delegation have already arrived in India, while others are expected later on Monday.

The US trade negotiators have landed in New Delhi just over a week after an Indian delegation led by Darpan Jain visited Washington DC.

The recent face-to-face meetings are likely to build on the Joint Statement issued by both countries on February 7, under which India and the US agreed on a framework for an interim agreement centred on reciprocal and mutually beneficial trade.

According to a statement issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry last week, the US team, led by its chief negotiator, will carry forward the discussions on the proposed bilateral trade agreement (BTA).

"It is proposed to finalise the details of the interim agreement and take forward the negotiations under the broader BTA on multiple areas, such as market access, non-tariff measures, customs and trade facilitation, investment promotion, economic security alignment," the ministry said.

Carmakers log big growth in May; Maruti, Kia clock record sales

NEW DELHI, PTI: Carmakers posted healthy growth in May, with Maruti Suzuki and Kia registering record sales, carrying forward the momentum witnessed at the beginning of the new fiscal.

Maruti Suzuki eVITARA

Maruti Suzuki India on Monday reported its highest-ever monthly sales, with domestic sales of 1,93,535 units in May 2026, compared to 1,38,690 units in the year-ago month.

Sales of mini cars, comprising the Alto and S-Presso, rose to 16,275 units last month, from 6,776 units in May 2025. Sales of compact cars, including Baleno, Celerio, Dzire, Ignis, Swift and WagonR, rose to 81,555 units last month, against 61,960 units in May 2025. The company's total passenger vehicle sales in May stood at 1,90,337 units, against 1,35,962 units in the same month last year, excluding commercial vehicles.

Bookings of the all-electric e-VITARA have doubled to over 4,000 units after the petrol price hikes. Similarly, CNG vehicle bookings have also gone up by 1.4 times.

Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles sales in the domestic market stood at 59,090 units last month, against 41,557 units a year ago, a growth of 42%, a filing showed.

Meanwhile, Mahindra & Mahindra sold 58,021 units in the domestic market, up 11% from a year ago.

Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL) reported a 9.1% YoY increase in domestic sales at 47,837 units in May 2026.

Kia India reported a 23.6% YoY growth in wholesales at 27,586 units in May 2026, compared to 22,315 units in May 2025. It was the "highest-ever sales in May" since market entry, Kia India said in a statement.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor's domestic sales stood at 30,574 units in the reported month against 29,280 units in the same month a year ago, registering a 4% YoY growth, the company stated.

JSW MG Motor India reported sales of 6,048 units in May 2026. The company, however, did not provide comparable YoY figures.

India's industrial output grows by 4.9% in April

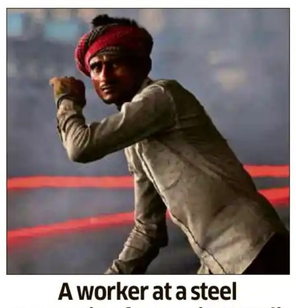
NSO releases first IIP data based on 2022-23 series

NEW DELHI, DHNS

India's industrial output grew by 4.9% YoY in April, supported by strong growth in manufacturing and the electricity sector, as per the new series of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) data based on the 2022-23 base year, released by the National Statistics Office (NSO) on Monday.

The manufacturing sector recorded a robust 6.2% expansion during the month under review. Electricity, gas supply and water supply registered a growth of 4.9%, while sewerage & waste management witnessed a growth of 6.6% YoY. However, there was 5.1% contraction in mining and quarrying output.

In March, the industrial output growth as measured by IIP stood at 3.2%.



A worker at a steel processing factory in Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab. REUTERS

This is the first data of IIP under the new base year 2022-23. The old base year was 2011-12. Under the new series, IIP growth for the past three financial years has been revised upwards. For 2025-26, the IIP growth has been revised upward to 4.3% under the 2022-23 series, from 4.1% under the 2011-12 series.

For 2024-25, it has been revised upward to 6.4% from 4%, and for 2023-24, it has been revised upward to 6.7% from 5.9%.

Dipti Deshpande, Principal Economist, Crisil, said the growth in April was supported by strong domestic demand as evident from auto sales, retail credit, electricity demand and others, despite headwinds from the West Asia conflict.

She added, "Industrial production could remain subdued in the months ahead due to weaker global demand and supply-chain disruptions."

Within manufacturing, 17 out of 23 industry groups recorded positive growth in April 2026, with the top-3 being manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers (12.7%), manufacture of electrical equipment (19.2%), and manufacture of machinery and equipment (12.9%).

As per use-based classification, capital goods witnessed significant growth of 16%, followed by intermediate goods (7.7%), infrastructure/ construction goods (7.1%), consumer durables (4.3%), consumer non-durables (2.8%), and primary goods (0.8%) in April 2026.

The high growth of intermediate goods, construction goods and consumer durables are expected to support the economic activity and GDP growth, going forward, said Assocham President Nirmal Kumar Minda.

GST collection slips to Rs 1.94L cr in May

NEW DELHI, DHNS

Revenue collection from the Goods and Services Tax (GST) slipped to Rs 1.94 lakh crore in May, from a record Rs 2.42 lakh crore registered in the previous month, as per official data on Monday.

However, on a YoY basis, the gross GST revenue collection was 3.2% higher in May, over Rs 1.88 lakh crore recorded in May 2025.

Vivek Jalan, Partner, Tax Connect Advisory Services, said the GST performance in May 2026 reflects both challenges and opportunities.

Gross domestic GST collections registered a degrowth of 2.6% YoY, while net domestic GST revenues dipped by 2.3% and domestic refunds contracted by 4.3%. However, this was more than off-set by strong growth in GST collections on imports, with IGST from imports rising 19.1% in May, and nearly 30% cumulatively this year.

"This resilience in import-linked revenues has helped overall net GST collections grow by 5.5% YoY, underscoring the strength of India's external trade flows," said Jalan.

Despite the subdued May collections, the government is hopeful to meet the Rs 10.19-lakh crore GST revenue target for the current fiscal, sources said.

On a cumulative basis for the first two months of the current fiscal, the gross GST collections stand at Rs 4,36,887 crore, against Rs 4,11,437 crore in the corresponding period of last year, registering growth of 6.2%.

"This cumulative YoY performance is healthy and in the right direction to achieve the full-year GST revenue target," a source said.

On an MoM basis, the moderation in collections compared to April is in line with established seasonal patterns, as the month typically captures higher economic activity linked to year-end transactions in March, said Karthik Mani, Partner, BDO India.

Gross Central GST (CGST) collection from domestic transactions during May stood at Rs 37,397 crore, State GST (SGST) stood at Rs 45,143 crore, and Integrated GST (IGST) stood at Rs 51,990 crore.

GREATER BENGALURU AUTHORITY
Office of the Chief Commissioner, N.R. Circle, Bengaluru - 560002.

No:GBA/MP/PR/365/2026-27 Date:01.06.2026

Global tender for selection of Agency to provide consultancy services for "Preparation of GIS based Master Plan for Greater Bengaluru Local Planning Area"

SHORT TERM TENDER
(Through E-Procurement only)

Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) intends to prepare GIS based Master Plan for Greater Bengaluru Local Planning Area and proposes to engage the services of an Agency for the same which shall be selected through e-tender process.

Tender document containing details of eligibility criteria. scope of work and other terms and conditions may be obtained from the website of e-procurement Department, Government of Karnataka. The last date for submission of tenders at **http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** is **20-06-2026 at 5.30 p.m.** Greater Bengaluru Authority reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason, whatsoever.

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No. SGITO/Sup/Car rental/339/2026-27 Date:.30-05-2026

RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal only)

Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Trauma & Orthopaedics, Byrasandra, Jayanagara East, Bengaluru - 11. invites tender from the eligible vehicle owners / agencies through the e-procurement portal of GOK for the following:-

PROVIDING VEHICLE SERVICES (CAR) ON OUTSOURCING BASIS FOR OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT WORK FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR - 2 Nos. (Yellow board AC vehicle - Model: 2024 or later Swift Dzire / Ertiga / Ciaz / Innova)

(1) The Tenderers can download the documents from: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/** on or after **02-06-2026** and the last date for submission of completed tenders through kpp portal is **10-06-2026** upto **4:00** PM.
(2) The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept / reject or cancel tender without assigning any reason thereof.

DIPR/SI/916/2026-27

Sd/- Director
Tender Inviting Authority

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BECC Sub-Division Office, KR Puram, Bengaluru-560036

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Short Term Request for Proposal for Implementing Mass Dog Vaccination (ARV & Combined). For Stray Dogs in Mahadevapura Zone (ZONE-1) of Bengaluru East City Corporation.

RFP SCHEDULE

1.	RFP Reference No. : **BECC/2026-27/SE0070**
2.	Date of Commencement of Download of RFP Document from Karnataka public Procurement portal website **http://Kppp.karnataka.gov.in : From 01/06/2026 Onwards**
3.	Tender Inviting Authority : **Assistant Director (Animal Husbandry), BECC**
4.	Tender Accepting Authority : **Commissioner, BECC**
5.	Last Date and Time for uploading Online Queries in Karnataka public Procurement portal: **upto 04.06.2026 5.00 PM**
6.	Date and Time of Pre-bid Meeting : **04.06.2026 at 12:30 PM** at the following venue: Office of the AD(AH), Ground floor, Mahadevapura BECC Sub-Division Office, KR Puram, Bengaluru-560036.
7.	Last Date and Time for uploading of RFP in Karnataka public Procurement portal : **upto 09.06.2026 5:00 PM**
8.	Date and Time of Opening of RFP in Karnataka public Procurement portal : **10.06.2026 5:10 PM**
9.	Place of Opening of RFP : Online at Karnataka public Procurement portal
10.	Address for Communication : AD(AH), Ground floor, Mahadevapura, BECC Sub-Division Office, KR Puram, Bengaluru-560036. Phone: 8296184712, Email: adahkrp01@gmail.com

Only Online Queries through KPP portal will be accepted. Queries sent through letters, emails or any other mode will not be entertained.

Sd/- Assistant Director (Animal Husbandry), BECC.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
LABORATORY FOR ELECTRO-OPTICS SYSTEMS (LEOS)
PEENYA, BANGALORE-560058
LEOS CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE DIVISION (LCMD)
[Phone: (080)-22685088, 5047, 5045, 5086, (080)-28392310]

BRIEF NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (NIET)

On behalf of the President of India, item rate e- tender are invited for the following work:

Name of the work : NIT NO & Date: Proposed Fabrication of containment structure for the existing machines at ADORE campus, LEOS ISRO, Peenya, Bangalore - 58. NIET No: CMG/LEOS/2026-27/LMN-02 Dtd: 25.05.2026; **Estimated cost put to tender in Rs. 22.72 Lakhs; EMD Rs : 45,440/-; Period of Completion in months :** 03 months; Tender document can be downloaded from : **Opening Date :** 02.06.2026; **Closing Date :** 15.06.2026

Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting **e-Tender** (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details in website: www.isro.gov.in and download the tender documents from www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO

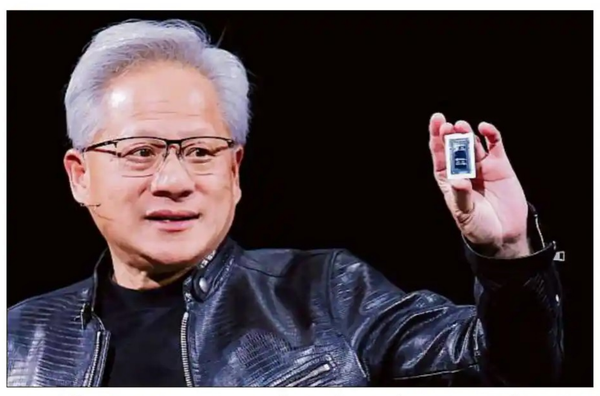
-Sd-
GROUP DIRECTOR
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP (C&MG)
URSC, BANGALORE.

Coinbase unveils direct INR rails for India biz

BENGALURU, DHNS: Nasdaq-listed Coinbase launched direct INR rails for customers in India on Monday. Indian customers can now deposit and withdraw INR directly from their bank accounts via IMPS (Immediate Payment Service), eliminating the need for P2P (Peer-to-Peer) rails or intermediaries, the company stated.

Coinbase, which has registered with FIU-IND, has built local INR order books that provide dedicated liquidity for Indian customers, with continued access to its global exchange.

"India has long been one of the most-important markets in crypto, in terms of developer talent, trading activity, and the broader adoption of blockchain technology," said John O'Loghlen, Head of APAC, Coinbase.



Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang introduces the RTX Spark GPU in Taipei, Taiwan, on Monday. REUTERS

Nvidia PC chip hailed as 'game changer' in race for AI device

TAIPEI, AFP: Laptop chipmakers such as Intel and AMD should be worried about their new rival Nvidia, experts say, after the US hardware titan announced a push into the personal computer market on Monday.

But despite Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang's assertion that homes will soon contain AI supercomputers, the race is still on to develop an ubiquitous, one-size-fits-all intelligent device.

Huang vowed to "reinvent the PC" with Nvidia's powerful chip for Windows machines, calling it "as big of a deal as the reinvention of the phone into what we now know as the smartphone".

Lian Jye Su, a chief analyst at Omdia, said "legacy" laptop chipmakers were now facing a challenge from Nvidia laptops optimised for AI.

"Both Intel and AMD are ready hardware-wise, but the question is software — and creating the right type of device that can match consumer expectations," he said.

Zhibin Xiao, CEO of the US company ZFlow AI, said that Nvidia bringing its AI prowess to laptops was a "game changer".

"There will be more people working on AI agents," and then "once you have developers, then you have more applications, and then people will buy the AI PC as a consumer", he said.

Others gave similar assessments, although Al Benzoni of Aperion Technologies said he would wait before buying one of the new Nvidia-powered Windows PCs, available later this year.

"I wouldn't want to be the first guinea pig," as "it's not so easy to have everything just smooth" like Apple has managed to do with its laptops.

Wipro to buy extra 20% stake in Aggne Global

BENGALURU, DHNS: Wipro's step-down subsidiary, Wipro IT Services, LLC, will acquire an additional 20% stake in Aggne Global Inc for $28.5 million. With this, the company's overall shareholding in Aggne will reach 80%.

The transaction is expected to be completed by June 5, 2026. Aggne Group is a fast-growing insurtech company offering a wide range of AI and intellectual property-driven services. The company's annual turnover stood at $27.5 million in FY26.

In a BSE filing, Wipro said this additional stake purchase in Aggne will further strengthen the company's competitive advantage in the insurance sector, particularly in driving AI and IP-led transformations for the Property & Casualty Insurance (P&C) sector. In February, Wipro announced its investment in Aggne to strengthen consulting and services capabilities in the insurance sector.

"Aggne's unique capabilities will allow us to significantly strengthen our value proposition in a fast-growing part of the insurance sector," Ritesh Talapatra, Senior VP, Capital Markets and Insurance, Americas 2 Strategic Market Unit, Wipro, had said.

Founded in 2019, Aggne is incorporated in the US and India, with offices in Tampa and Hyderabad.

BGC to host event for persons with disabilities

BENGALURU, DHNS: The first edition of the Adaptive Golf Open, a tournament for persons with disabilities, will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday at the Bangalore Golf Club here.

The tournament will see 19 players with a range of disabilties compete in both regular formats for players and a fun format for those recently into golf.

To qualify for the tournament, a player must hold an EDGA Player Pass, issued by the EDGA Golf assigning the appropriate disability classification and applicable section of Rule 25 of the Rules of Golf.

The field will also include visually impaired and blind players, disabilities from amputations or limb deficiencies. The competition will also include BGC's own officier from the armed former, who was injured in action.

Players who compete can build a future as Adaptive Golfers and can also aquire and build a world ranking.

"The golf club, which is celebrating 150 years, has always promoted the cause of golf. As a special initiative, the club is proud to host the first tournament for persons with disability," BGC captain Ravi Kumar Raju said.

Indonesia next stop for Indian shuttlers

JAKARTA, PTI: Brimming with confidence after breaking their title drought in Singapore, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty will look to make it a double celebration in a week's time when they open their campaign in the Indonesia Open Super 1000 badminton tournament starting here on Tuesday.

In women's singles, PV Sindhu, who exited in the quarterfinals in Singapore, will open her campaign against Busanan Ongbamrungphan of Thailand.

If she progresses to the next round, the double Olympic medallist might face nemesis and top seed An Se Young of Korea, against whom she had lost in the quarterfinals of the Singapore Open.

The loss in Singapore extended Sindhu's winless run against the reigning Olympic champion to nine matches.

Arun fires a glut in Annsh's rout

BENGALURU, DHNS: Arun Kumar K fired five goals (10th, 32nd, 33rd, 35th, 58th minutes) in Annsh FC's 12-0 victory over Yelahanka FC in the KSFA C Division League Championship at the Bangalore Football Stadium here on Monday.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

Sheeraz Khan (7th, 12th), Rihan Anwar (14th, 15th) and Saleem (16th, 17th) also contributed a brace each in the big victory for Annsh in Group C of the league.

Results: North Zone: Group C: Annsh SC: 12 (Sheeraz Khan 7th, 12th, Arun Kumar K 10th, 32nd, 33rd, 35th, 58th, Rihan Anwar 14th, 15th, Saleem A 16th, 17th, EA Aswin Krishna 41st) bt Yelahanka FC: 0.
Black Moon FC: 3 (Nehminhao 29th, Madhan S 33rd, Vimal Raj V 45th) bt Victoria FC Bangalore: 2 (A Pagu Tharivalan 4th, 60th).
Ronaldo FC Bengaluru: 0 drew with Play 365: 0.
Group D: Agniputhra FC: 1 (Panalavan S 60+2nd P) drew with DB United FC: 1 (Johnson S 54th P).
RV FC: 1 (Swaroop Surad 60+1st) drew with Blue Diamond FC: 1 (Babu 16th).
D Division: Group A: Amey: 1 (Zothanmawia Pachuau 13th) drew with All Star: 1 (Trishul Reddy K 6th).
Elite Soccer School: 7 (Mahesh Bahaddur Bhandari 3rd, Gourav HC 7th, Tantang 9th, 38th, Lun min Khonggi 17th, Jonah Maring 77th, 49th) bt Blues FA: 1 (Shyam 31st).

◆ ON TV ◆

TENNIS
French Open: Quarterfinals **(2:30 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network, FanCode**.

BADMINTON
Indonesia Open: Round of 32 **(7:30 am)**. **LIVE** on **Star Sports Select 2, JioHotstar**.

TENNIS FRENCH OPEN

Berrettini barges into quarters

Former world No. 6 in first Slam last-8 stage in four years

PARIS, AFP

Matteo Berrettini stormed into his first Grand Slam quarterfinal in four years with an impressive straight-sets victory over Juan Manuel Cerundolo in the French Open last 16 on Monday.

The former Wimbledon finalist, who has been plagued by injuries, won 6-3, 7-6 (7/3), 7-6 (8/6) against Argentinian Cerundolo, who had dumped out world No. 1 Jannik Sinner in the second round.

"This (tennis) is the love of my life, I guess, otherwise I wouldn't keep coming back after all the setbacks, the injuries," said Berrettini.

"There were moments it was really tough to come back and hit a ball... But now I'm back and it's thanks to them (his team), my character and my resilience."

Berrettini, the world No. 105, is the lowest-ranked Roland Garros men's quarterfinalist since Igor Andreev in 2007.

The 30-year-old will next face either American 19th seed Frances Tiafoe or fellow Italian Matteo Arnaldi on Wednesday.

Berrettini, who lost the 2021 Wimbledon showpiece to Novak Djokovic, is the only Grand Slam finalist left in his half of the draw and one of only two remaining in the men's tournament, alongside Alexander Zverev.

He showed few ill-effects of playing the longest match of his career when he beat Francisco Comesana, saving two match points, in the previous round.

Meanwhile, Felix Auger-Aliassime despatched Alejandro Tabilo 6-3, 7-5, 6-1 on Monday to reach the French Open quarterfinals for the first time. After playing nine sets and more than 11 hours as he won his first three matches in the first-week heatwave, Auger-Aliassime sped through his fourth match in two hours, eight minutes with the temperature in the mid-20s.

Cobolli through

Flavio Cobolli said he made the mistake of "thinking" before he steadied on Monday and clawed into the French Open quarterfinals, beating Zachary Svajda 6-2, 6-3, 6-7 (3/7), 7-6 (7/5).

Cobolli raced through the first two sets in a total of one hour 25 minutes, breaking twice in each.

Then he wobbled once to surrender the third set and, leading 5-1 and with a match point, wobbled again in the fourth before surging through the tiebreak.

Results: Fourth round (prefix denotes seeding): Men: 10-Flavio Cobolli (Ita) bt Zachary Svajda (USA) 6-2, 6-3, 6-7 (3/7), 7-6 (7/5); Matteo Berrettini (Ita) bt Juan Manuel Cerundolo (Arg) 6-3, 7-6 (7/2), 7-6 (8/6); 4-Felix Auger-Aliassime (Can) bt Alejandro Tabilo (Chi) 6-3, 7-5, 6-1
Women: 25-Diana Shnaider (Rus) bt 19-Madison Keys (USA) 6-3, 3-6, 6-0; 22-Anna Kalinskaya (Rus) bt 28-Anastasia Potapova (Aut) 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (10/7); Maja Chwalinska (Pol) bt Diane Parry (Fra) 6-3, 6-2.

Italy's Matteo Berrettini celebrates after winning his fourth round match against Argentina's Juan Manuel Cerundolo at the French Open in Paris on Monday. REUTERS

Serena returns after 4-year sabbatical

Serena Williams confirmed her return to tennis after an absence of nearly four years on Monday, with the American great set to play women's doubles at Queen's Club later this month, reports London from AFP.

The 44-year-old American tennis star, a 23-time Grand Slam singles champion, has not played since a third-round loss at the 2022 US Open.

The former world number one posted the message, "Good news travels fast" along with a video of her on court in an all-white Nike tennis dress and with her phone buzzing rapidly.

Olympics remain the ultimate goal for Sat-Chi

'We want to win in every tournament and major event'

ADITYA K HALDER
BENGALURU, DHNS

India's leading badminton doubles pair Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty gave Indian fans a lot to cheer about following their epic win at the Singapore Open on Sunday.

The victory, where they rallied to beat Indonesian No. 3 Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Shohibul Fikri over three games in the final, ended the World No. 4 pair's two-year title drought which saw the duo struggle with respective injuries since their Paris Olympics' debacle.

However, the writing was on the wall for a while now as the duo reached the finals of the Thailand Open last week after winning the bronze medal with the Indian team at the Thomas Cup in Denmark. The pair certainly seems to have found their mojo back at the right time with their Asian Games and Commonwealth Games on the line later this year.

"Yeah, it's pretty much important win for us," said 25-year-old Satwik during a virtual press conference. "Beating top players and winning the tournament, I was waiting for this chance as we were disappointed after the Thailand Open because we had a chance there."

His 28-year-old partner, however, feels they never actually lost their touch, adding that their progress was halted by injuries but they never became inconsistent.

"I wouldn't call it inconsistency. I think we, on the contrary, were quite consistent to be called No. 3 in the world. By that notion, everybody else beyond No. 1 should stop playing badminton," said Chirag while speaking to the media at a virtual press conference.

"I think we've played three finals and we've been out of tournaments for more than six months in those two years. Not even six months where we've not played a tournament."

Chirag further added that Olympic success remains the ultimate goal, while they desire to do well at each and every major event they participate in.

"We want to win in every single tournament and every major event there is. We want to medal at each and every major event and like for any athlete, I think the Olympics is the ultimate goal and likewise for us," said Chirag.

However, the shuttler didn't clarify if he makes to the LA Olympics 2028, he will do so with his existing partner.

"Right now, nothing is confirmed as of yet. Things are still like we've started working, but it's not on paper as of yet," said Chirag.

"Currently, I think it's too early to say anything, but I think right now it's going good. So, yeah, fingers crossed. Let's see how it goes."

Chirag Shetty (left) and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy ended their two-year title drought at the Singapore Open on Sunday. BWF

Indians endure tough day

OSLO, PTI

The Indian contingent endured a miserable outing as all four players suffered defeats in Round 6, with world champion D Gukesh slipping back to losing ways after showing encouraging signs in the previous round, while R Praggnanandhaa, Divya Deshmukh and Koneru Humpy also ended on the wrong side of the results in Norway Chess here.

In stark contrast to the Indians' collective collapse, defending champion and world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen continued his resurgence, securing a classical victory to thrust himself firmly back into title contention.

Magnus Carlsen

Divya loses lead

World Cup winner Divya Deshmukh (8.5 points) relinquished her grip on the top spot after a classical defeat to China's five-time world champion Ju Wenjun (8 points), slipping to second place but remaining well within striking distance of leader Bibisara Assaubayeva (9.5 points).
The Kazakh player edged further ahead after outlasting Koneru Humpy (5.5 points) in the Armageddon tie-break, following a hard-fought draw in classical play.

Zee acquires broadcasting rights for FIFA World Cup

BENGALURU, DHNS: Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL) has secured the exclusive broadcast and digital rights for the FIFA World Cup 2026 and World Cup 2030 in India after months of uncertainty over the telecast of the footballing extravaganza in the country.

While Zee on Monday officially confirmed itself as the broadcaster, it did not disclose the financial details of the agreement. Industry estimates, however, value of the deal for the 2026 WC at approximately USD 30-35 million.

The FIFA World Cup 2026, to be jointly hosted by the United States, Canada and Mexico, will begin on June 11.

Zee will also hold rights for the tournament's centenary edition in 2030, hosted by Saudi Arabia. Apart from the two World Cups, Zee has acquired rights for the Women's World Cup 2027, Men's and Women's U-17 WCs, U-20 Men's and Women's WCs, Futsal WCs and the FIFA Intercontinental Cup.

Omkar's six-for seals easy win for Cambridge over Zodiac CC

BENGALURU, DHNS: Omkar HR took a 6/15 to dismantle Zodiac Cricket Club for a mere 40 all out as Cambridge Cricket Club posted a comfortable 10-wicket victory in the KSCA Y S Ramasawamy Memorial Trophy for Group I - II, III division and qualifiers from 4th & 5th division clubs.

Brief scores: Zodiac: 41 all out in 14.4 overs (Rohan N 3-25, Omkar HR 6-15) lt to Cambridge: 42/0 in 8.1 overs.
Chintamani SA: 134 all out in 31.2 overs (Aaron Christie 73, Pranav R Babu 28; Tejas KA 2-25, Shivakumar BU 2-22, Pranav Bhatia 4-30) lt to Rajajinagar Cricketers: 138/6 in 16.3 overs (Sireesh Balgaar 26; Ajay Bhide 2-51, Abhishek HP 4-49).]
City Gymkhana: 76 all out in 16.4 overs (Banesh SP 2-26, Rahul Shetty 4-10, Nihal Gowda K 3-10) lt to Whirlwind Cricketers: 77/1 in 7.2 overs (Bhuvan Vishwanth 47, Shrikara 25 n.o.)
Friends Union (1): 172 all out in 26.4 overs (Shishir R 51, Saideep HJ 46; Sujith 2-28, Udgeet S Nandan 3-31, Madhu Sudhan 2-49, Angadraj Hittalamani 2-15) lt to Vijaya CC, Malur: 175/8 in 29 overs (Vijay KA 31, Udgeet S Nandan 35 n.o.; Sidharth Akhil 3-26, Ronak Yelwal 2-35).
Bangalore SC: 93/8 in 34 overs (Naman GD 4-22, Shreesha S Achar 3-7) lt to Bangalore Occasionals: 96/2 in 13.2 overs (Suraj Ahuja 35 n.o., Rajvir Wadhwa 51 n.o.; Anirudha A Joshi 2-45).
Hammonds: 118/3 in 20 overs (KS Bharath 70 n.o.) lt to Mount Joy: 140/7 in 19.1 overs (Samarth Srinivas 39 n.o.; Vikas MN 2-19).
Jayanagar United Cricketers: 171 all out in 49.2 overs (Tejaswy Kolchippu 36, Sunil Kaushik GT 29, Sandeep Agri 3-34, Prem Sagar P 2-35, Abdul Bari 2-27, Shahid Ali 2-27) lt to Crescent CC (1): 174/4 in 30.5 overs (Syed Muteeb Uddin 51, Anoop Gandhi V 59 n.o., Shahid Ali 37 n.o., Sunil Kaushik GT 2-18).
Bangalore Star CA: 291 all out in 47.5 overs (Deepak 78, Akhil Rao 46, Tanmay Gowda V 50, Chethankl 40; Manuveer Mahajan 4-50, Mahesh Kumar P 2-51, Nagaraja G 3-65) bt Visweswarampuram CC (2): 164 all out in 38.1 overs (Kushal Keshav AB 37, Barath C 52, Abhishek SK 28; Kishore S 3-25, Akhil Rao 2-19, Raga Shiv Shankar 2-19)
Social Cricketers: 172 all out in 42.2 overs (Rohan N 72; Suhas Purushotham 2-25, Bharath S 2-39, Sheetal Kumar 4-29) lt to Jayanagar Cricketers: 176/6 in 39.1 overs (S Chaitanya 31, Saharsh M Reddy 47, Rithvik H 49 n.o.; Anmol Mathur 2-30, Shreevathsa R Acharya 2-43). Visweswarampuram (1): 249 all out in 47.4 overs (Nishith Raj 74, Harshil Arigala 56, Vikram PS 50; Nischith N Rao 4-40, Bhimrao Navale 2-40, Krushna V Rao 3-50) lt to Swastic Union (1): 251/6 in 43.1 overs (Jasper EJ 45, Prakhar Chaturvedi 69, Nitish Arya 43, Pavandeep R Bharadakane 44; Hardhik Chandra 2-48).

Prathyusha, Vrinda humble Young Lions

BENGALURU, DHNS: Prathyusha Challuru registered a brilliant hundred while Vrinda Dinesh notched up a rapid fifty as Palar Sports Club, Kolar thrashed Young Lions Club by 183 runs in the KSCA Senior Women's T20 tournament.

LOCAL CRICKET

Batting first, Palar SC posted a mammoth 258/6 in 20 overs, thanks to contributions from Prathyusha (103, 50b) and Vrinda (67, 20b).

In reply, Young Lions Club were restricted to a mere 75/8 in 20 overs, with Saina Kapoor (2/13), Sakshi Munavalli (2/11) and BG Tejashwini (2/9) picking two wickets apiece.

Brief scores: Palar Sports Club, Kolar: 258/6 in 20 overs (Myra Jain 38, Prathyusha Challuru 103, Vrinda Dinesh 67; Nithya 3-36) bt Young Lions Club: 75/8 in 20 overs (Saina Kapoor 2-13, Sakshi Munavalli 2-11, BG Tejashwini 2-9).
South End Sports Club: 133/8 in 20 overs (Savi CS 26; Nisarga K 2-35, Aarushi Anand Sutar 3-17, Tanushree M 2-24) bt Sir Syed Cricketers: 119/7 in 20 overs (Kavya G 25, Vianna Sarah D'Souza 26; Harshitha Shekar 2-23).
Visweswarapuram Cricket Club (2): 97/6 in 20 overs (Tanushree Prakash Ijeri 65; Lavanya M 3-10) lt to Swastic Union Cricket Club (1): 98/5 in 17.1 overs (Rakshitha R 28, Aaradhya Mallik 26).
Friends Union Cricket Club (2): 125/1 in 20 overs (Angelica Melany Pinto 37, Thejaswini Uday Kumar 46) bt Dooravani Cricketers (1): 120/6 in 20 overs (G Sai Pranavi 3-10).
Coles Cricket Club: 200/4 in 20 overs (Stuthi M 77, Rakshita Moondra 51) bt Cavaliers Cricket Club: 44/7 in 20 overs (Rakshita Moondra 3-9).
Swastic Union Cricket Club (2): 164/3 in 20 overs (Nandani Chauhan 67, Saloni P 54; Keerthi K C 3-27) bt Whirlwind Cricketers: 65 all out in 19.2 overs (Veda Varshini V 3-9, Yashika K Gowda 2-8, Sirisha R 2-11, Nuha Harish 2-3).

22 rowers included in TOPS list

NEW DELHI, PTI: Twenty-two rowers were on Monday inducted into the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) Development Group ahead of the Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, in September-October.

The decision was taken by the Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) in its 174th meeting here. The list was announced following the completion of annual national selection trials and crew finalisation by the Rowing Federation of India (RFI).

Among the prominent names inducted are Balraj Panwar and Arvind Singh.

Minority Welfare Department
kolar District
Phone : 08152-295257
Date: 30.05.2026

short term Tender notification

The District Officer, Minority Welfare Department, Kolar, hereby invites Technical & Commercial Bids from eligible bidders for supply of perishable and non-perishable food materials etc., to the Pre-Metric, Post-Metric Hostels, Dr APJ Schools and MMDRS Schools/Colleges located in Kolar District, Karnataka, through Public Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Interested eligible Bidders can participate in the Tender through **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. Approximate Amount put to tender: **Rs. 3,64,00,000 Lakh.** EMD Amount: **Rs. 5,46,000/-.** Start date for submission of tender application: **30.05.2026** Last date to submit: **15.06.2026, 5.00 p.m.**

Sd/- District Officer
Minority welfare department, kolar District
DIPR/KOLAR/RO:/KSMCA/2026-27

ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಜಿಗಣಿ
ಜಿಗಣಿ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಆನೇಕಲ್ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560105.
ದೂ: 080–29760400, E-Mail: itstaff_ulb_jigani@yahoo.com, jiganideo@gmail.com
ಸಂ:ಜಿ.ಪು.ಕಾ/ತಾಂ.ಶಾ/ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ/04/2026–27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.06.2026

ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಜಿಗಣಿ ಪುರಸಭೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2026–27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪುರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿ ಎಸ್.ಸಿ.ಎಸ್.ಪಿ, ಟಿ.ಎಸ್.ಪಿ. ಶೇ.7.25% ಯೋಜನೆ ಮತ್ತು 2026–27ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ದರ್ಜೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳವರು ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

Sl. No.	Indent Number	Est. Cost Rs. in Lakhs
1	DMA/2026-27/RD/WORK_INDENT59059	17.08
2	DMA/2026-27/RD/WORK_INDENT59060	6.92
3	DMA/2026-27/RD/WORK_INDENT59062	9.60
4	DMA/2026-27/WS/WORK_INDENT59064	6.00

1. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.06.2026ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ.** 2. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 11.06.2026ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.** ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸ ಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ, ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080–29760400 ಇಮೇಲ್:itstaff_ulb_jigani@yahoo.com. 3. ಪುರಸಭೆಯ ಅನುದಾನದ ಲಭ್ಯತೆಯ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಬಿಲ್ಲನ್ನು ಪಾವತಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/–
ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಜಿಗಣಿ
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಜೆಎ/922/2026–27

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
U.R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
HAL Old Airport Road, Bangalore - 560 017
(Phone: 080 25084156, 4184)
CORRIGENDUM - II

Sl.No	Description	Details
1	Name of work	Contract for Hiring of Shamiyana and other Allied Items for Main Campus, URSC, Vimanapura and ISITE Campus, Marathahalli, Bengaluru
2	E-Tender Notice	URSC/C&MG/C/M/10/2026-27 dated: 27/04/2026
3	Estimated cost put to Tender	₹ 12.37 Lakhs
4	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	Extended upto 16.30 hrs on 09/06/2026
5	Last date and time for receipt of tenders	Up to 14.30 hrs. on 12/06/2026
6	Due date and time of opening of tenders	After 14.31 hrs on 12/06/2026

Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details along with Hindi version in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**.
Sd/-
Group Director, C&MG, URSC

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Traffic Engineering Cell Division, Room No.09, Ground Floor,
Annex Building-3, Greater Bengaluru Authority Office Premises,
N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: BCCC/EE/TEC/Tend/01/2026-27 **Date: 01-06-2026**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal Only)

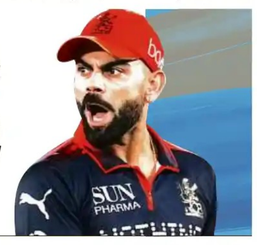
The Executive Engineer, Traffic Engineering Cell Division, BCCC, Bengaluru invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers for the Work detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Construction of Skywalk under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on Dynamic Duration Model under Commercial Advertisement Rights at Santhosh Theatre on Kempe Gowda Road. **EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 5.00 (Rs. 1.00 Lakh through e-Payment & Remaining Rs. 4.00 Lakhs as Specified in Bid Document).**

Calendar of Events: 1) RFP Documents may be Downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 02-06-2026 onwards. 2)** Last Date for Tender Queries: **11-06-2026 upto 15.00 Hours through KPP Portal Only. 3)** Date of Pre Bid Meeting on **12-06-2026 at 15.00 Hours in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Bengaluru Central City Corporation, Zone-1, 18th Floor, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Public Utility Building, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bengaluru - 560001. 4)** Last Date for Receipt of Tenders: **19-06-2026 upto 17.00 Hours. 5)** Date of Opening of Technical Bid: **22-06-2026 at 11.00 Hours. 6)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **After Approval of Technical Bid.** Further details can be had from the above office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Traffic Engineering Cell Division, BCCC.

10 TEAMS 13 VENUES 58 DAYS 74 MATCHES

> Stuff you dream of. Thought of this moment many times, wanting to hit the winning run. Felt really relaxed coming in. The team we have gives confidence to see any kind of situation through. Knew exactly what to do in the chase.
>
> **VIRAT KOHLI, RCB BATTER**



The blueprint that catapulted Bengaluru to second successive title

From underachieving unit to LEGACY-SETTING BUNCH

SIDNEY KIRAN
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

A super-strong core firing on all cylinders, an understated captain who ensured the engine kept running smoothly over a gruelling two-month ride, an intelligent and cohesive support staff that laid the blueprint for success at the mega auctions in November 2024 and unheralded and forgotten talents rising to the fore combined beautifully to deliver Royal Challengers Bengaluru their second straight IPL trophy.

When Royal Challengers ended 17 years of wait last June by claiming their maiden IPL, the joy and relief was evident among weeping players to the support staff and even their fans who had been the butt of social media jokes at times.

Success can cause two things; either teams settle for the view from the summit for a while after having finally trekked the arduous journey or catch a breath and then plot another ascension. That's exactly what Royal Challengers did when the management clearly stated before this season that 2025 was history and they were here to chart a legacy of their own. And the determined players walked the talk as they became just the third team after heavyweights Mumbai Indians and Chennai Super Kings to win back-to-back trophies.

The massive factor behind the triumph was the performances of established stars like Virat Kohli (675 runs), Rajat Patidar (501), Krunal Pandya (226, 14 wickets), Tim David (305), Bhuvneshwar Kumar (28 wickets) and Josh Hazlewood (15). At various stages in the tournament, the sextet—all 33 years and above — showed why experience is priceless despite the format being considered the bastion of youth.

Royal Challengers Bengaluru players celebrate with the trophy in Ahmedabad on Sunday. PTI

Former captain Kohli, who has played only for RCB since the beginning of the IPL in 2008, showed his undying hunger to still be the best in the world by scoring at a career-high strike rate of 165.84. The King yet again reigned supreme in chases, including the final against Gujarat Titans where he slammed a 42-ball 75 not out to prove his powers are very much intact.

Patidar, a surprising choice for captaincy last season, led with a calmness seen in the likes of greats MS Dhoni and Rohit Sharma. He allowed veterans the space to perform, gave direction to youngsters like Devdutt Padikkal (464) and Rasikh Dar (19) and belief to others in the camp. Captaincy also got the best out of him as a player, the 33-year-old upping his game against pacers.

Spinner Krunal, who won a fifth IPL crown as a player on Sunday, excelled not just with the ball but produced match-winning contributions with the bat. Masters Bhuvneshwar and Hazlewood bamboozled batters with their old-school tricks, picking wickets at the start and delivering frugal spells at the death.

Apart from the stars, players like Padikkal, Dar and Venkatesh Iyer too rose to the challenge commendably. Padikkal extended his impressive domestic season run, while Dar emerged as a revelation as the back-up act to Bhuvneshwar and Hazlewood.

Although the players deserve all the adulation, head coach Andy Flower, batting coach and mentor Dinesh Karthik and Director of Cricket Mo Bobat need plenty of praise. Not only did they piece together this champion unit through meticulous planning, they changed the superstar culture that had weighed RCB down earlier and found a way to extract the most from every member of the team.

Since the start of IPL, RCB, along with CSK and MI, were considered the heavyweights, and clashes between the trio were deemed marquee. But some felt RCB needed a crown to be considered as equals. Now they have two and will be gunning for more, looking to create a legacy of their own.

Rasikh: A surprise ace in Royal Challengers' pace

SIDNEY KIRAN
AHMEDABAD, DHNS

When Royal Challengers Bengaluru splurged Rs 6 crore for Rasikh Dar during the mega auctions in November 2024—five times more than South African international Lungi Ngidi—the move surprised many. Yes, the Jammu and Kashmir-born pacer had a decent 2024 IPL outing for Delhi Capitals with nine wickets in eight games, but such a heavy price for an uncapped journeyman still finding his feet was viewed as an over-evaluation of basic stock.

And that's how it panned out last season as the 26-year-old could make a mere two appearances with Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Josh Hazlewood and Yash Dayal doing all the pace-bowling work. But when Dayal ruled himself out of this season after being embroiled in legal troubles, the 26-year-old Dar may have felt he could finally get his time under the sun following plenty of toil.

It was not to be as the management initially put their money on Abhinandan Singh. Dar didn't get disheartened as he was used to playing the waiting game since joining Mumbai Indians as a 17-year-old during the 2019 auctions. That season he made his IPL debut and just when things started to look promising for the bustling teenager he was banned by the BCCI from all cricketing activities for two years in June 2019 in an age-fudging case.

Dar, whose school teacher father wanted him to join the Indian Army, didn't give up on his cricketing dreams and kept honing his skills every day at his village in Ashmuji, Kulgam district, completing away from the spotlight. The road back was very tough but being a man from the hills, where life itself is an up-and-down climb or vice-versa everyday, he stayed focused on becoming a fast bowler.

The door opened when Kolkata Knight Riders took him onboard in 2022 but again he could only manage two games. His stint with DC the next season was the best but then he was let go before being procured by RCB. Money was great with the Red and Gold but he wanted caps and wickets, the currencies that matter.

So when RCB handed him a chance against DC on April 18 after Abhinandan struggled to make an impact, Dar was delighted. He took the first couple of matches to find his groove, but as he started to get a consistent run, the confidence started to grow. Coming on as first or second change pacer, Dar tightened the pressure created by Bhuvneshwar and Hazlewood with wickets in the middle overs to end up becoming the perfect understudy for the seniors.

Rasikh Dar

Showing his coming of age after watching the seniors from the sidelines, Dar, who plays domestic cricket for Baroda now, revelled with his mixture of back-of-the-hand slower deliveries, yorkers, and the ability to move the ball both ways. He eventually ended up becoming one of the key performers for the team, picking up 19 wickets in 12 games with two three-wicket hauls, including a 3/27 show in the final against Gujarat Titans.

"At first, we went with Abhinandan in the league stage. He also tried his best. But when we gave a chance to Rasikh, he looked confident because he has been playing IPL for 3-4 years," said RCB skipper Rajat Patidar after the final. "He is very much confident about his skills, about his slower ones, back of the hand, and especially yorkers. I think he supported Bhuvi and Hazlewood this IPL. Again, it's clear that whenever I see him, he has clarity about his role, what he has to do."

The stock of Dar took a couple of years to mature, but it has blossomed well.

RCB's talent-grooming system

VIGNESH BHARADWAJ
BENGALURU, DHNS

Winning championships, let alone in dominating fashion, was never a part of Royal Challengers Bengaluru's lexicon for the longest time. However, for a side that was once devoid of confidence, they now carry a sense of invincibility wherever they go.

Now that the new-age Bengaluru have won consecutive trophies in such a comprehensive manner, it is only fair to ask the question: What changed?

RCB head coach Andy Flower revealed that director of cricket Mo Bobat set up a talent identification system, which has been an important part in terms of preparation at how they go about business.

"Mo (Bobat) has set up a scouting system here at Royal Challengers Bengaluru that is in its initial phases of growth. We had all the scouts with us for the final. It was nice to see all of them together. And that is an important part of what we do with respect to preparation," Flower said in a virtual press conference.

Scouting can be of two parts. One for immediate requirement of the franchise, and the other for the foreseeable future in terms of player monitoring and management. And Bengaluru seemed to have found the right balance between the two, and more importantly found the right people for the job by Flower's own admission.

Andy Flower (left), Virat Kohli (centre) and Mo Bobat celebrate with the IPL Trophy. PTI

"It is really important to get the best people in the room and we have got a really nice group of scouts. When I say nice, they are guys that we trust their cricket opinions."

"We trust that they are doing their job with due diligence and they are good guys to have in the system. So Malolan (Rangarajan) has been with RCB for a number of years and has also been instrumental in setting up that scouting system with Mo. So we trust that and we are going to build on that," he added.

Flower, along with Bobat, who have revolutionised RCB's identity, attributed a large chunk of the success to their Indian backroom staff.

"The Indian coaches have also been absolutely crucial to the success. Onkar Salvi has been great. Malo is really important to our decision-making processes. DK (Dinesh Karthik) is a different kettle of fish altogether, full of energy, full of ideas and he is a great energy to have around. So it is a proper team effort."

While the Challengers do not obsess over data, it has certainly played a part in their tactics and decision making in the last three campaigns.

"In terms of data, both Andy and I are very similar in our views. We don't focus too much but what I do think we share in common is a desire to have evidence based decision making," Bobat said.

"And philosophically, we both believe in that information being a combination of the numbers and also what some of our expert eyes and ears see and hear and what they can tell us."

INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE 2026

Top run-getters

Runs	Batter
776	**Vaibhav Sooryavanshi** (RR)
732	Shubman Gill (GT)
722	Sai Sudharsan (GT)
675	Virat Kohli (RCB)
624	Heinrich Klaasen (SRH)
602	Ishan Kishan (SRH)

Top wicket-takers

Wickets	Bowler
29	Kagiso Rabada (GT)
28	Bhuvneshwar Kumar (RCB)
25	Jofra Archer (RR)
21	Rashid Khan (GT)
21	Anshul Kamboj (CSK)
20	Eshan Malinga (SRH)
19	Mohammed Siraj (GT)

David suspended for one IPL game

Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Tim David was on Monday suspended for one match next season apart from being handed a fine of 50 per cent of his match fee for breaching the IPL's Code of Conduct during the final against Gujarat Titans, reports PTI.

The 30-year-old David collected two demerit points for his offence and has now accumulated five demerit points which amounts to suspension of one game, the IPL said in a statement.

It is the third instance of the Australian cricketer breaching the IPL's Code of Conduct this season, with the tournament coming to an end on Sunday after RCB won their second title on the trot, beating GT by five wickets in the final.

"Tim David, Batter, Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), has been fined 50 per cent of his match fee and has also accumulated two Demerit Points for breaching Level 1 of the IPL's Code of Conduct for Players and Team Officials," the IPL said.

David admitted to the offence and accepted the sanction imposed by match referee Javagal Srinath, after he was found guilty of throwing an ice bag "aggressively" in the direction of on-field umpire Nitin Menon.

The incident happened during the 10th over of the first innings at the fall of a wicket.

From quiet rookie to leader: Pavan recalls Patidar journey

MADHU JAWALI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Long before he became one of Royal Challengers Bengaluru's brightest success stories and a leader entrusted with carrying the franchise forward, those around him could already sense something different.

To Pavan Deshpande, who shared dressing room, training sessions and long conversations with the shy youngster during the Covid-hit IPL season of 2020-21, the signs were impossible to miss. Pavan, a former Karnataka cricketer turned Kannada TV commentator, has a ring-side view of the slow but sensational growth of the Madhya Pradesh batter.

"You could tell even back then that he was special," says Pavan. "When you see someone hit the ball, you can sense what kind of cricketer he is going to become."

During Royal Challengers Bengaluru's stint in Chennai, recalls Pavan, before the IPL was halted because of Covid-19, the youngster smashed a brisk century in an intrasquad game against bowlers like Yuzvendra Chahal, Umesh Yadav and Mohammed Siraj.

The bond between the two grew stronger when the tournament shifted to the UAE.

Pavan Deshpande (left) and Rajat Patidar.

"He was very shy and didn't mingle much with others, but since we were both domestic cricketers at the time, there was a comfort zone between us. We often went to play golf together."

Patidar may be a world famous cricketer now, having led RCB to two titles, but UAE trip for IPL was his first overseas sojourn.

"It was his first tour abroad and his card probably wasn't activated," says Pavan. "So he asked if he could use my card to pay a few bills because his card wasn't working. Of course, he returned the money as soon as we got back to India," he adds with a laugh.

Although the batter played only four matches in India that season and did not score heavily, the UAE leg proved transformative. The two trained together under strength and conditioning coach Shanker Basu, known for his work with Virat Kohli.

"We trained with Basu sir for around 45 days and he (Patidar) made the most of it. Not everyone can handle power training. Your body has to be ready for it, and he picked it up remarkably well."

That, Pavan believes, explains the effortless six-hitting ability that has now become one of the batter's trademarks.

"I'm not surprised by the distances he clears despite not having a very big build," says Pavan.

The warmth, he says, remains unchanged despite the rise.

"I met him briefly after the match in Ahmedabad when he was heading for the press conference. He was exactly the same as before, very warm and happy. He was also sharing his joy about becoming a father."

India's middle-order in spotlight in final T20I

TAUNTON, PTI

Indian team will expect more from the dependable duo of Deepti Sharma and Richa Ghosh as it aims to sort out its middle order woes going into the third and final women's T20 International against hosts England here on Tuesday.

With the series locked at 1-1, a victory in the decider will not just be another overseas bilateral win but a shot in the arm for either team before the start of the Women's T20 World Cup later this month. For India, this series is also the dress rehearsal to check out the ideal combinations based on English conditions going into the marquee event.

Richa Ghosh

LIVE 11:00 PM

In the first couple of games, Yastika Bhatia with a half-century and a 30 odd has by far looked the best batter. Jemimah Rodrigues also got a fifty while the elegant Smriti Mandhana and destructive Shafali Verma got starts in the second match.

However, in both games India lost momentum towards the last five overs and the big-hitter Richa hasn't exactly fired in both games.

In the first game, fabulous batting by Bhatia and Rodrigues had ensured that India ended up with a healthy 188/7 despite only 40 runs being scored between overs 16 and 20. In the second, India were sitting pretty but it was an unmitigated disaster between overs 16 and 20 when they were reduced to 28 for five.

'Learnt how to play under pressure'

AHMEDABAD, PTI

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi blew the IPL 2026 away with his record-breaking strokeplay but the 15-year-old batting sensation says he also has learnt to shift gears according to the game situation, remaining calm under pressure, and working on his fitness to remain injury-free.

While his team Rajasthan Royals failed to make the final after losing to eventual runners-up Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 2, the left-handed batter was adjudged the Most Valuable Player of the tournament. Sooryavanshi topped the batting chart with 776 runs from 16 innings at an average of 48.50 and a stunning strike rate of 237.30, hitting one century and five fifties to win the Orange Cap.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi

"This season, I learnt how to play in pressure games, (and) how to change your game," said the 15-year-old after collecting his award after the final here on Sunday.

"You cannot play every game in one mode. You will have to read the situation of the game and play according to the requirements of the team. I got to learn this a lot in the playoff games too."

Sooryavanshi surpassed West Indian Chris Gayle's previous IPL record of maximum number of sixes (59) in a season, as he smashed 72 maximums.

"I want to play for a long time, and I will have to work on my fitness and focus on it."

He said Rajasthan Royals team has been very supportive of him.

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